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PROPOSED MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997*

MAJOR PROGRAMME V. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Programme 27. Advancement of women

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* The present document contains programme 27 of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997. The complete medium-term plan will subsequently be issued in final printed form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1).

PROGRAMME 27. ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

A. Programme

1. General orientation

27.1 The general mandate for the programme on the Advancement of women stems from the second preambular paragraph of the Charter of the United Nations, which reaffirms faith in the equal rights of men and women and Articles 1 and 55, which state that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex. On that basis, the Commission on the Status of Women was established by the Economic and Social Council by its resolution 11 (II) of 21 June 1946 to prepare recommendations and reports to the Council on promoting women's rights in political, economic, civil, social and educational fields. The Commission was also to make recommendations to the Council on urgent problems requiring immediate attention in the field of women's rights with the object of implementing the principle that men and women shall have equal rights, and to develop proposals to give effect to such recommendations. The legislative authority of the programme was further elaborated in subsequent successive resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women. The promotion of equality between men and women was established progressively in a series of international instruments, the most recent of which is the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979 and which entered into force on 3 September 1981.

27.2 Advancement of women was given its broadest programmatic expression during the United Nations International Women's Year (1975) and the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace (1976-1985), culminating in the endorsement by the General Assembly, in its resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985, of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the Year 2000. The resolution emphasized the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women in matters related to the advancement of the status of women, called upon it to promote the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and urged all organizations of the United Nations system to co-operate with the Commission. In order to implement the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, the Commission, at its session in 1987, established new procedures and a long-term programme of work, including priority themes to be discussed at its sessions until 1992. The Commission will consider the issue of the priority themes to be discussed at its sessions from 1993 to 1996 at its thirty-fourth session in 1990. In order to co-ordinate the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies by the organizations of the United Nations system, the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development for the period 1990-1995 was agreed upon by the Economic and Social Council by its resolution 1987/86. The Council designated the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations office at Geneva as the focal point for the implementation of the system-wide medium-term plan.

27.3 The ultimate objective of the international community as expressed in the resolutions of the legislative bodies and in various legal instruments is to achieve equality between men and women in all spheres of human activities. Until this objective is achieved, the programme will aim specifically at:

(a) Promoting and monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, which should result in the elimination of all forms of inequality between men and women, and in the complete integration of women into the development process;

(b) Assisting State Parties in the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and promoting the adhesion to the Convention of those States which have not yet done so.

27.4 Despite the adoption of a number of international instruments pertaining in whole or in part to women and to the positive changes that resulted from the implementation of those instruments, and the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, including the three world conferences held at Mexico City (1975), Copenhagen (1980) and Nairobi (1985), de jure and de facto discrimination against women continues to exist in many countries and areas. The obstacles to the establishment of genuine equality between women and men and to women's full participation in the economic, social, political and cultural spheres, including in the attainment of peace, are many and varied in nature. Their elimination will involve dealing with all aspects of women's life and will imply further major changes in the legal and attitudinal bases of the relations between men and women in all societies.

2. Overall strategy

27.5 The programme will be implemented by the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Office at Vienna, which has been designated focal point for activities of the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations system concerned with the advancement of women. Support of the work of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly is the fundamental means for achieving these objectives through the provision of policy analysis outlining the issues relating to the advancement of women identified in the long-term programme of work of the Commission and other legislative mandates. This involves the preparation of substantive input to the discussions by these intergovernmental bodies, collection and dissemination of information, maintenance and use of statistics, monitoring of national policies and policy studies undertaken in universities and by governmental and non-governmental organizations and research institutes.

27.6 The strategy also includes the provision of technical and substantive servicing to the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, including the processing and analysis of reports of States parties. For the second quinquennial review and appraisal, the strategy will include assisting Governments and non-governmental organizations in their preparation for the proposed 1995 World Conference on Women, as well as preparing and servicing the Conference.

27.7 In order to harmonize action at the international and national levels especially by national machineries for the advancement of women, governmental and non-governmental organizations, these institutions will be provided with information in an accessible form on the results of policy analysis done at the international level, with available statistics and bibliographical information on work done within the United Nations system. Advisory services will also be

provided, on request, to Governments. Regional and interregional seminars on essential issues for the advancement of women will be organized, including on the implementation of the Convention, specific development problems and the functioning of national machinery.

27.8 This programme is closely related to all other programmes of the medium-term plan and to the medium-term plans of the specialized agencies of the United Nations system through the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development. On that basis, co-operation and co-ordination will be maintained with all departments and offices of the United Nations and the secretariat of the organizations of the United Nations system engaged in work related to the advancement of women. This will take place through the network of focal points of the United Nations Secretariat and specialized agencies and bodies, whose work is reported in biennial monitoring reports and updates of the cross-organizational analysis on the advancement of women. It will also take place through the annual ad hoc inter-agency meetings on women, which are held under the aegis of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination.

3. Subprogramme structure and priorities

27.9 The subprogramme structure follows the main components of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and consists of one subprogramme for each of the co-equal objectives along which the Strategies are organized, which are (a) equality, (b) development and (c) peace. It also contains a fourth subprogramme whose concern is to ensure the consistency and interrelationship among the various activities to implement the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies. The subprogramme provides for their monitoring, review and appraisal and the necessary services for this at the national and international levels.

27.10 The Economic and Social Council, by its resolution 1989/30, decided that subprogramme 4 on monitoring, review and appraisal of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies should be given high priority and that the highest priority be accorded to addressing the fundamental needs of women in developing countries, particularly in such sectors as literacy, education, employment, health and population, with a view to ensuring their full integration into the development process and full participation in decision-making. On that basis, the order of priority among the subprogrammes is subprogramme 2 on development and then subprogramme 4 on monitoring, review and appraisal followed on a co-equal basis by the subprogrammes 1 on equality and 3 on peace.

B. Subprogrammes

SUBPROGRAMME 1. EQUALITY

(a) Objectives

27.11 The legislative authority for the present subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 34/180, 40/108, 40/204 and 41/108; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1983/27, paragraph 2, 1984/14, 1987/3, paragraphs 11 and 12, 1987/19, paragraph 3, 1987/86 and 1988/30, paragraphs 7 and 11 to 13; Commission on the Status of Women resolution 2 (1987), paragraphs 1 and 2; the Nairobi

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Forward-looking Strategies, paragraphs 43 to 59, 309 to 316, 345 to 355 and 366 to 368; and the System-Wide Medium-Term Plan for Women and Development, subprogrammes 1.1 and 1.2.

27.12 Despite progress made in repealing discriminatory laws and enacting new legislation, further measures are necessary to guarantee equal rights for women and men. Member States need comprehensive information on existing international standards pertaining to the status of women and policy measures based on the analysis of current discriminatory legislative provisions and practices in the social, economic, cultural and political spheres. While many countries have ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, others have not done so. In addition, the delays in the reporting on the Convention by many States parties means that they might need assistance in the preparation of their national reports. In addition, many Governments are undertaking innovative legal and administrative steps to eliminate de jure and de facto discrimination which are not widely known and which could benefit other countries facing similar problems. Finally, it is clear that women's access to decision-making is inadequate, but the extent of the problem and the progress being made at national levels to overcome it are not systematically known.

27.13 In the light of the above, the objectives of subprogramme 1 are as follows:

(a) To promote the implementation of international standards set forth in international conventions, declarations and recommendations as they pertain to women, in particular, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;

(b) To achieve significant progress in the ratification of international instruments concerning the status of women, particularly the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

(c) To strengthen the commitment to establish, modify, expand or enforce a comprehensive legal base for equality of women and men;

(d) To increase the awareness of Governments and the public of international standards, especially the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women concerning the status of women and to promote compliance with those standards in national legislation and policy;

(e) To develop guidelines on the study of sex stereotyping at the national level and on the development of techniques and action programmes to combat it;

(f) To facilitate reporting by States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and review by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

(g) To assist Member States in bringing national legislation into conformity with international standards;

(h) To establish regular monitoring of the extent and level of women's participation in decision-making in the public sector at the national and international levels, and of the provision of and access to the means that will enable women effectively to assume responsibilities in decision-making processes.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

27.14 In the period 1992-1997, the Secretariat will monitor, review and appraise on a regular basis the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women through national reports in accordance with the Convention. States parties will be assisted in the process of preparation and presentation of reports through the servicing of annual meetings of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the biennial meetings of States parties. The results of these meetings will be disseminated through publications and reports. In addition, guided by follow-up recommendations by the Commission on the Status of Women, studies will be undertaken. These will be integrated into the preparation for priority theme discussion by the Commission on the Status of Women on elimination of de jure and de facto discrimination against women in 1992 and its follow-up.

27.15 Training seminars will be organized and advisory services provided to Governments upon their request on (a) reporting in the context of the Convention and (b) on national legislation in order to bring it into conformity with international standards. On the specific question of the interrelationship between the image and reality of discriminatory practices such as sex stereotyping, particularly in the media, an early effort will be made to present the "state of the art" in global knowledge of these phenomena in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Department of Public Information and non-governmental organizations. Depending on the priority themes that might be selected by the Commission, work would continue to identify the complex set of prejudices affecting the advancement of women, multiple roles of women and the double burden of women in family and society by identifying facts and public policies regarding family responsibilities, for presentation in reports and publications.

27.16 Based on the follow-up to priority themes relating to participation discussed by the Commission, efforts will be made to improve global monitoring of the participation of women in decision-making by (a) reviewing sources of information, (b) defining what should be monitored by establishing standards and indicators and defining functions, roles and levels of authority that should be included and (c) identifying and reporting on the setting of targets and measures for their implementation at the national and international levels, including in the organizations of the United Nations system. This should lead to a comprehensive report for 1995 as part of the review and appraisal process.

SUBPROGRAMME 2. DEVELOPMENT

(a) Objectives

27.17 The legislative authority for the present subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 40/108, 40/204, paragraph 3, 44/77, paragraph 8, 44/78 and 44/171, paragraphs 1 to 3, 6 and 10; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/24, paragraphs 1 to 4, 1987/86, paragraph 1 and 1989/37; Commission on the Status of Women resolution 4 (1987), paragraphs (b), (c), (d); the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, paragraphs 107 to 124, 228 to 231, 309 to 316, 322 to 327, 337 and 345 to 351; and the System-Wide Medium-Term Plan for Women and Development, subprogrammes 3.4, 4.2, 5.3, 6.1 and 6.4.

27.18 The full participation of women as agents and beneficiaries in development requires accurate knowledge of their role and potential and of successful policies to achieve it. While considerable progress has been made in providing information about this through such vehicles as the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development 1/ and its first update, the studies to date merely provide a backdrop for the more detailed analysis which can lead to the elaboration of more concrete policy measures. The interrelationships between the goals of equality and peace, the effects of sharing parental duties on women's participation, and the participation of women in economic decision-making are some major areas where information needs have been identified. In addition, global knowledge of the role of women requires taking advantage of all available research, particularly that collected by national machineries. The need for a functioning research and information network has already been stressed. It is particularly important to identify and meet the fundamental needs of women in developing countries, particularly the least developed countries.

27.19 The objectives of subprogramme 2, therefore, are:

(a) To assist in the formulation of national plans, programmes and projects based on a comprehensive analysis of the interrelationship of factors linking women and development in terms of both women's contribution to development and the impact of development on women, taking into account the effects of emerging global economic trends on women and the need to address the fundamental needs of women in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries;

(b) To apply innovative methods of research and analysis to emerging women's issues as a basis for developing policies and programmes at the national, regional and interregional levels to promote the advancement of women and greater equality between men and women;

(c) To assist all national machineries and regional and national research institutions in studying the effects of global and regional development trends on women's roles in development;

(d) To develop and co-ordinate system-wide approaches to women and development, particularly in updating the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development;

(e) To encourage international non-governmental organizations to involve women in their functions and to encourage women's organizations and all appropriate governmental bodies in various countries to involve women in discussions and studies on various aspects of decision-making for development.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

27.20 In the period 1992-1997, the work of the Secretariat will centre on the preparation of the 1994 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development. This update will emphasize the study of women's roles in development over time and in different cultures and regions and the interrelationships among the main goals of the Forward-looking Strategies. It will include efforts to develop methods for cross-sectoral and multidisciplinary research on interrelationships between economic, social and political aspects and will emphasize women both as agents and beneficiaries. The work will be done on the basis of inter-agency co-operation.

It should also involve support to national machineries through further development and elaboration of the existing women's data base and a network of information exchange on research results.

27.21 Specific work in support of the Commission's consideration of priority themes in development will continue, including the preparation of studies on the integration of women in the process of development and subjects for subsequent years as determined by the Commission. The work will include conceptual work for the analysis of the participation of women in economic decision-making. In conjunction with work on the role of women in society and of social support structures to permit women's full integration in the economy, studies will continue as a follow-up to the discussions of the priority theme on that subject held by the Commission on the Status of Women at its 1989 session and on the basis of priority themes for 1993 and beyond. Among possible topics to be examined will be the relationship changes in family patterns and women's advancement, access to credit and financial resources by women and the role of support structures. Assistance will continue to be given to Governments, and in particular, national machineries, through training seminars, advisory services and support to efforts to incorporate women's concerns into national planning and programming.

SUBPROGRAMME 3. PEACE

(a) Objectives

27.22 The legislative authority for the present subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolution 40/108; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/24, annex, 1988/27, paragraph 4 and 1988/28, paragraphs 1 and 5; Commission on the Status of Women resolutions 1 (1987) and 32/3; the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, paragraphs 239 to 262, 309 to 316, 354 to 355 and 356 to 365; and the System-Wide Medium-Term Plan for Women and Development, subprogrammes 3.4, 4.1, 4.2 and 6.1.

27.23 The issue of peace is inextricably connected to the issues of equality and development. The interrelationships must be carefully explored in order to ensure the consistency of policies. Among the issues on which more information and analysis is required is the role of women in decision-making for peace, policy measures relating to violence in society - including the family, and various measures to promote disarmament and peaceful resolution of disputes among nations.

27.24 The objectives of subprogramme 3 are:

(a) To implement provisions of the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation (General Assembly resolution 37/63 of 3 December 1982);

(b) To encourage women's organizations and all appropriate governmental bodies in various countries to involve women in discussion and studies on various aspects of decision-making for development, which is inseparably linked to equality and peace, in order to foster understanding and friendly relations between people and nations;

(c) To promote the dissemination of information on the participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation;

(d) To monitor, on a regular basis, both the manner and extent to which women participate in the decision-making process for peace;

(e) To encourage, strengthen and co-ordinate research on women and peace, including the concerns caused by violence against women within the family and society at the national, regional and international level.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

27.25 Work on peace at the international level will initially centre on women's participation in decision-making on peace and disarmament, which is the priority theme for the Commission in 1992. In addition, efforts to increase education for peace, as a follow-up to the priority theme on peace discussion in 1988 will include steps to develop a co-ordinated approach within the United Nations system, especially through regional focal points (either intergovernmental organizations or non-governmental organizations) as may be guided by the Commission in its recommendations. Work will continue to examine the issues of women in specific conflict situations, as a follow-up to the 1990 priority theme, and in relation to parallel issues under the theme of equality, such as vulnerable women. In terms of the issues of violence against women, follow-up to the 1988 priority theme will be undertaken, including examination of the relationship between different levels of violence.

SUBPROGRAMME 4. MONITORING, REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

(a) Objectives

27.26 The legislative authority for the present subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 40/108 and 44/77, paragraphs 2, 8, 10 and 16; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/18, paragraphs 1 and 4, 1987/22, annex, 1988/22, paragraphs 1, 3 to 5, 8, 10 to 12 and annex, and 1989/30, paragraphs 3 and 5; the Commission on the Status of Women resolution 4 (1987), paragraph (e); the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, paragraphs 309 to 321, 338 to 344, 366 to 369 and 371 to 372; and the System-Wide Medium-Term Plan for Women and Development, subprogrammes 5.2, 6.2 and 6.3.

27.27 The impetus and relevance of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies requires a careful effort at monitoring, reviewing and appraising progress. Without that effort, the importance of advancement of women in public policy and in concrete programmes might be reduced, ineffective programmes perpetuated and new, promising initiatives go unnoticed by the international community. The basis for monitoring, review and appraisal must be national machineries for the advancement of those women, whose level of development is uneven and who currently lack systematic means to exchange information. The flow of information between national and international levels is similarly uneven and unsystematic.

27.28 The objectives of subprogramme 4 are:

(a) To monitor the overall implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies by undertaking comprehensive reviews of action taken, resources allocated and progress achieved in developing and implementing international and national policy guidelines for the advancement of women;

(b) To strengthen networks for the exchange of information on women among Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, researchers and activists, and to promote more effective communication and co-operation between them;

(c) To establish a system for collecting and updating information from countries and the United Nations system for the review and appraisal of national experience in implementing the Forward-looking Strategies and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

(d) To assist Member States in establishing and strengthening national machineries, particularly in developing their monitoring and review and appraisal functions.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

27.29 The biennial monitoring exercises, based on assessment of the extent to which activities related to the advancement of women are included in the work of the organizations of the United Nations system, annual substantive monitoring in the context of the priority themes discussed by the Commission on the Status of Women and quinquennial reviews and appraisals will be conducted, based on a system of questionnaires, statistical reporting and analysis of information produced at the national and international levels. It will include preparing for and servicing the proposed 1995 World Conference on Women.

27.30 Efforts will be made to strengthen national machineries, including preparation of guidelines in the light of the follow-up to the discussion of the priority theme on national machineries by the Commission on the Status of Women in 1988. They will include the development of bibliographical information systems and dissemination of information on national and international experience to interested national machineries, the sponsoring of training for national machineries where requested and organization of meetings of non-governmental organizations. Exchange of information about the activities of national machineries will be a regular feature of Women News and Women 2000.

27.31 Efforts to increase interaction between Governments and non-governmental organizations at the international level will centre on helping non-governmental organizations to organize activities in connection with the annual sessions of the Commission in terms of the priority themes in the proposed 1995 World Conference on Women, preparing information kits on selected priority themes during the period based on their particular relevance and importance for use in training and orientation.

Notes

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MAJOR PROGRAMME V. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Programme 28. International drug control

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Programme 28. International drug control

A. Programme

1. General orientation

28.1 The overall mandates for international drug control derive from international drug control treaties and General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions, as well as from recommendations contained in the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control, adopted at the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in 1987. The most recent mandate was given by the General Assembly during its seventeenth special session, held from 20 to 23 February 1990, in the form of a Global Programme of Action on international co-operation against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (see General Assembly resolution S-17/2). In addition, a system-wide action plan on drug abuse control which was being elaborated pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/141 of 15 December 1989, will guide the work of the programme.

28.2 The main objective of the present programme on international drug control is the strengthening of multilateral collaboration to assist national authorities in dealing with an international problem widely recognized as incapable of solution by any individual Member State.

28.3 An ever-increasing variety of natural and synthetic substances are extending the problem of drug abuse to hitherto unaffected strata of society and to new geographical areas. The main task of the international drug control system is to regulate the supply and use of dependence-producing drugs and substances placed under international control, to ensure their availability for medical and scientific needs, to suppress illicit drug traffic and to reduce the negative impact of drug abuse on the individual and on society. The international community is committed to meet these challenges and to bear collective responsibility to reduce drug abuse and its harmful consequences by determined action and co-operation at the national, regional and international levels. The system is anchored in a series of treaties entered into by sovereign States to help meet their basic obligation to protect the health, welfare and safety of their citizens.

28.4 In the past years, progress in international drug abuse control was made through expanded advisory services, technical assistance, broader coverage of all aspects of the problem and increased determination of Member States to recognize their collective responsibility. However, the complete eradication of illicit narcotic production and illegal manufacture remains a distant goal. Urgent and determined efforts will, therefore, have to be continued and intensified to improve the drug control system, to reduce demand, to eradicate the supply of drugs from illicit sources, to halt the illicit traffic and to treat, rehabilitate and socially reintegerate drug abusers.

2. Overall strategy

28.5 The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, was established to advise the Council on all matters pertaining to the control of narcotic drugs. The Division of Narcotic Drugs acts as secretariat to the Commission and also acts on behalf of the Secretary-General in respect of his obligations under the international drug control treaties. The 13-member International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), with its separate secretariat, is responsible for monitoring licit trade and performing certain quasi-judicial duties under the international drug control treaties.

28.6 The United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) is the major source within the United Nations system for financial and technical assistance, particularly to the developing world, in the field of drug abuse control. UNFDAC, which is supported entirely from voluntary contributions of member Governments and private organizations, was established by General Assembly resolution 2719 (XXV) of 15 December 1971. It has an integrated policy that aims at reducing the supply, demand and the traffic of illicit drugs. The components of the policy are programmes that include: strengthening the licit control system; prevention and reduction of illicit demand for drugs; treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts; elimination of the supply of drugs from illicit sources; and operational aspects for enhancing the interdiction capabilities of law enforcement agencies and strengthening criminal justice systems. Through those and other drug control activities, UNFDAC will continue to endeavour to create anti-drug momentum within individual countries and to strengthen the abilities and commitment of Governments and communities to tackle the problems of drug abuse and the associated trafficking.

28.7 To assist in the reduction of the illicit supply of and demand for drugs, the Division of Narcotic Drugs will continue to focus on advising concerned entities in the United Nations system as well as Member States on the multidisciplinary techniques required for international drug control. During the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, special emphasis will be placed on demand reduction through the implementation of an international drug abuse assessment system. Assistance to introduce the system, together with the necessary technical and scientific tools will be provided to Member States. Preventive education will be supported through raising the awareness of the public, and the Division will continue to respond to queries from Member States and the public on current research and development. Efforts will be strengthened to assist in interdicting illicit drug traffic, improving drug control systems and counteracting the laundering of illicit drug proceeds. The international training strategy for law enforcement and laboratory techniques will be enhanced and new methodologies such as the use of remote sensing for the detection of illicit cultivation will be promoted. Research on environmentally safe methods of eradication of illicit narcotic plants will continue. In view of the complex technical nature of international drug control, increased efforts will be made in the field of scientific and technical assistance to Governments by enlisting the active participation of institutions with advanced knowledge and technology and by promoting international collaboration.

28.8 To promote compliance by Governments with drug control treaties, INCB will continue to reinforce its monitoring functions, develop its capacity to provide services for the establishment and strengthening of national administrative control structures and to advise Governments on control policies. INCB examines all stages in the licit trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances to ensure that all

Governments take the requisite measures to limit the manufacture and import of drugs to the quantities necessary for medical and scientific purposes. It sees that adequate measures are taken to prevent the diversion of those substances into illicit channels, determines whether there is a risk that a country may become a major centre of illicit traffic, asks for explanations in the event of apparent violations of the treaties and proposes appropriate remedial measures to Governments that are not fully applying the provisions of the treaties or are encountering difficulties in doing so and, where necessary, assists Governments in overcoming such difficulties.

28.9 INCB will continue to recommend that multilateral or bilateral assistance, either technical or financial or both, should be accorded to a country experiencing difficulties with the aforementioned tasks. However, if INCB notes that the measures necessary to remedy a serious situation have not been taken, it may call the attention of the parties, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Economic and Social Council to the matter in cases where it believes that that would be the most effective way to facilitate co-operation and improve the situation. Finally, as a last resort, the treaties empower INCB to recommend to parties that they stop the import of drugs, the export of drugs, or both, from or to the defaulting country. In the fulfilment of its functions, INCB seeks to prevent major difficulties before they arise, acting in all cases in close co-operation with Governments.

28.10 Co-ordination is undertaken within the United Nations with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the Secretariat and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. Within the United Nations system, the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the World Health Organization (WHO), the Universal Postal Union, the International Maritime Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and other specialized agencies also carry out related activities in the field of international drug abuse control within their respective mandates and areas of competence. Co-ordination with those and other organizations is mainly maintained through the biannual sessions of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Co-ordination in Matters of International Drug Abuse Control within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination. In addition, co-ordination with WHO is maintained through various means of communication and reciprocal representation.

28.11 In matters of international control of drugs, close co-operation is maintained with the International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO/Interpol), the Customs Co-operation Council and such regional organizations as the International Arab Narcotics Bureau of the League of Arab States, the European Community, the Council of Europe, the Colombo Plan Bureau, the Permanent Secretariat of the South American Agreement on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and the Organization of African Unity.

3. Subprogramme structure and priorities

28.12 On the basis of the orientation described in the preceding paragraphs, the programme will have the following subprogrammes:

Subprogramme 1. Treaty implementation

Subprogramme 2. Applied scientific research

Subprogramme 3. Suppression of illicit traffic

Subprogramme 4. Demand reduction, co-ordination and information

Subprogramme 5. Maintaining and improving the effectiveness of the international drug control system

Subprogramme 6. International limitation and monitoring of licit production, manufacture, trade in and use of narcotic drugs

Subprogramme 7. International monitoring of licit trade in and use of psychotropic substances

Subprogramme 8. Monitoring of solvents, precursors and essential chemicals and assessment of substances for possible modifications in the scope of control of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances

28.13 The Division of Narcotic Drugs will be responsible for the implementation of subprogrammes 1 to 4 and the International Narcotics Control Board for subprogrammes 5 to 8.

28.14 Subprogramme 1 is designated as highest priority. The subprogrammes of INCB do not lend themselves to priority setting.

B. Subprogrammes

SUBPROGRAMME 1. TREATY IMPLEMENTATION

(a) Objectives

28.15 The legislative authority for the present subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 40/121, paragraphs 4, 9, 13, 41/126, 41/127, paragraph 8, 42/112, paragraph 7, 43/122, section II, paragraphs 3-5, 44/140, 44/141 and S-17/2; and target 20, paragraph 262, of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1988/9, paragraphs 6, 7 and 12, 1988/11, paragraph 2, 1988/13, paragraph 6, 1988/14, paragraph 4, 1988/15, paragraph 3, 1989/13, paragraphs 6 and 7, 1989/17, 1989/20, paragraph 6 and 1989/119; and articles 5, paragraph 4 e; 7, paragraphs 8 and 9; 12, paragraphs 2, 3, 6, 7 b, 10; 17, paragraph 7; and 20 of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

28.16 Universal accession to, and effective and strict implementation of, treaty obligations are essential for the fight against drug abuse. In recognition of the role of the United Nations system in the development of normative standards and taking into account all aspects that might hinder States to accede to or implement treaties in the field of drug abuse control, balanced and multidisciplinary research must be undertaken to enable the relevant United Nations bodies to

identify problems and make practical proposals to overcome legal and other difficulties impeding the implementation of treaties.

28.17 Accordingly, the objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To assist Governments through advisory services to accede and implement drug control treaties;

(b) To identify problems and make practical proposals for collaboration and exchange of information on drug-control legislation with a view to promoting implementation of international drug-control treaties;

(c) To provide the international community with forums where experience of States with drug-control legislation can be exchanged and evaluated.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

28.18 The main emphasis will be placed on gaining wider adherence to and implementation of all international drug control treaties. In that connection, advice will be provided to countries requesting implementation assistance. Analytical summaries and reports on legislative developments will be issued as well as publications of lists of national authorities issuing import and export certificates and authorizations, lists of manufacturers of drugs and substances under international control. Information to policy-making and subsidiary organs of the United Nations system on treaty implementation, follow-up to the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and international co-operation will also be provided.

SUBPROGRAMME 2. APPLIED SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

(a) Objectives

28.19 The legislative authority for the present subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 43/122, section II, paragraphs 3 and 7 and S-17/2; and targets 2, paragraph 55, 4, paragraph 84, 8, paragraph 142, 11, paragraph 171, 12, paragraphs 177-179, 13, paragraphs 186 and 187, 15, paragraph 208, 21, paragraphs 269 and 270 and 24, paragraph 303, of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1985/76, paragraph 1, 1988/9, paragraph 12 and annex A, paragraph 1, B, paragraphs 6 and 12, and C, paragraph 15, 1988/16, paragraphs 2 and 8, 1989/13, paragraph 7; and article 12 of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

28.20 Over the past few years, there has been a considerable increase in the number of scheduled substances, reflecting a rapid diversification of drugs of abuse. The consequent increase of regulatory efforts has resulted, in turn, in better but, at the same time, more stringent national legislation and sentencing provisions. This new situation, involving an increase in the diversity of drugs seized, frequency and volume of seizures, presents a challenge not only to national regulatory and law enforcement authorities, but also to the technical and scientific staff of forensic chemistry and toxicology laboratories. The rapid spreading of drug abuse and traffic to regions of the world previously not affected by those problems necessitates the availability of well-equipped and adequately staffed national and regional laboratory services, covering both the analysis of

seized drugs and that of biological fluids. Regulatory and law enforcement services also need continuous scientific and technical advice.

28.21 The objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To assist in establishing or strengthening national narcotics laboratories in developing countries and to promote their collaboration in international programmes;

(b) To conduct training in methods for the identification and analysis of drugs of abuse in seized material to promote international involvement in such training;

(c) To conduct and co-ordinate applied scientific research on narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and to develop detector and testing methods;

(d) To provide scientific and technical information and advice to specialized agencies, national authorities and collaborating scientists and to maintain and update a collection of scientific literature.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

28.22 Assistance for the establishment or strengthening of national and regional narcotics laboratories will continue in order to ensure that all developing Member States with drug abuse and trafficking problems are able to address such problems. Increased attention will be given to toxicology laboratory services, thus supporting demand reduction, and to the promotion of regional collaboration by developing regional reference laboratories. It will include advice and material assistance as well as the improvement and development of skills by training and information services. Ongoing advisory services will be widened to cover the expected new drugs (drug classes) as well as new technical and scientific subjects mandated by the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, which, during the medium-term plan period, is expected to enter into force. Close collaboration with WHO and INCB on chemical aspects of drug control will continue.

28.23 The promotion and co-ordination of international collaboration on priority subjects of a scientific and technical nature that directly impact on drug control will continue. This will include establishment of linkages with national institutions involved in such research, facilitation of communication and exchange of information and advice and support to such institutions, including the provision of working tools and up-to-date information and direct involvement in such research programmes where needed.

28.24 Inasmuch as law enforcement tasks need scientific support, new technologies will be explored and evaluated with a view to determining their applicability to areas such as the safe and efficient eradication of illicit narcotic crops and the handling and disposal of seized drugs and chemicals. Technical advice on detection and seizure of clandestine operations will also be provided.

SUBPROGRAMME 3. SUPPRESSION OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC

(a) Objectives

28.25 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 40/121, paragraphs 2 and 13, 43/122, section I, paragraph 8 and section II, paragraph 3, 44/142 and S-17/2; and targets 10, paragraph 165, 12, paragraph 179, 14, paragraph 198, 15, paragraph 207, 17, paragraph 245, 18, paragraph 252, 23, paragraph 287, of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1985/13, paragraph 5, 1988/11, paragraph 4, 1988/12, paragraph 3, 1988/13, paragraph 5 (c) to (h), 1988/15, paragraphs 2 and 3, 1988/9, 1989/13, paragraph 7; and article 9, paragraph 3, article 10, paragraph 1, article 12, paragraphs 3 and 7 b, of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

28.26 The steadily worsening drug situation in almost all parts of the world and, specifically, the constant expansion of international illicit drug trafficking demonstrate the abundant supply of drugs and the apparently unlimited financial resources of drug traffickers. The number of cases where large quantities of seized drugs are involved is constantly increasing. It is also clear that there is a growing number of technically well-organized international networks of criminal syndicates, with bank and business connections allowing for the transfer of proceeds from illicit drug traffic, which in turn allows for a large variety of money laundering transactions in many different countries.

28.27 The rapidly changing and complex patterns of increased illicit traffic in drugs and use of profits derived therefrom, as well as its relation to other internationally organized criminal activities, have made it more and more difficult to deal with these problems on the national, regional or interregional levels. Developing, producing and transit countries require increased international financial and technical assistance and advisory services.

28.28 Accordingly, the objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To assist Governments through advisory services and information exchanges to implement relevant provisions of the international drug control treaties to suppress illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

(b) To identify problems and to make practical proposals for collaboration and exchange of information on new and improved countermeasures against international illicit drug traffic;

(c) To promote information on world-wide trends in illicit traffic;

(d) To co-ordinate a world-wide training strategy for law enforcement policies.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

28.29 Activities will focus on the monitoring of the illicit supply of and traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic and other substances under international control by developing, maintaining and making accessible to Member States an information system on illicit traffic. Member States will be assisted in strengthening

effective practical co-operation between national drug control and law enforcement services. Improvements will be made in the exchange of general and operational information between Governments, and information will be disseminated on investigative techniques and on methods used by illicit trafficking organizations. Technical advice will be provided to Governments, upon request, in supply reduction and to support law enforcement countermeasures. Assistance will be given to countries where illicit cultivation of narcotic plants takes place, to help them to detect such cultivation by using technologies such as high-resolution satellite imagery and remote sensing. Training in advanced law enforcement techniques, particularly in the implementation of the provisions of the 1988 United Nations Convention with respect to tracing, freezing and forfeiture of proceeds of drug crimes, will also be provided. Training manuals and syllabi for law enforcement officers will be developed. The development of effective measures by the international business, financial and professional communities to complement the operation of money-laundering laws and to combat the conversion or transfer of proceeds of drug trafficking will be facilitated.

SUBPROGRAMME 4. DEMAND REDUCTION, CO-ORDINATION AND INFORMATION

(a) Objectives

28.30 The legislative authority for the present subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 40/121, paragraphs 2 and 13, 40/122, paragraphs 2 and 4, 41/127, paragraphs 5 and 6, 42/112, paragraphs 3 and 7, 43/121, paragraphs 5, 6 and 7, 43/122, section I, paragraph 15, section II, paragraph 3, 44/141, 44/142 and S-17/2; and targets 1, paragraphs 39 and 40, 5, paragraph 96 (e), 30, paragraph 354, 31, paragraph 377, 32, paragraphs 385 and 387, of the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control, and paragraphs 4 to 7 and annex A, paragraphs 1 and 2; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/28, paragraph 5, 1988/13, paragraph 5, 1988/16, paragraph 8, 1989/9, paragraph 12, 1989/14, paragraph 1 and 1989/20, paragraph 5.

28.31 Drug abuse and its pernicious consequences are now reaching most countries, regardless of political orientation, socio-economic system or geographical location. With its negative impact affecting all sectors of society, the world-wide situation is alarming, already adversely affecting a growing number of individuals, families and communities. The drug abuse element contributing to the spread of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) highlights the magnitude of the drug abuse phenomenon. Consequently, the central task of the subprogramme will be to continue to foster, facilitate and strengthen co-operation among Member States, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and others concerned in support of the overall objective of a world free from drug abuse.

28.32 Therefore, the objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To assist Member States in formulating strategies to address the various components of the drug abuse problem;

(b) To monitor, analyse and report on world-wide and regional trends in drug abuse;

(c) To increase public awareness of the negative effects of drug abuse and of successful programmes and countermeasures;

(d) To encourage the development of programmes utilizing community resources for the prevention and reduction of drug abuse and drug trafficking;

(e) To develop and maintain an information strategy and to serve as a clearinghouse for information on international drug control and to prepare and disseminate material on drug problems, research findings and related developments.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

28.33 Activities will be undertaken to gain a wider understanding of the underlying causes of drug abuse and to assist Member States in formulating strategies to address the various components of the drug abuse phenomenon. In that connection, comparative studies will be conducted at various levels of society, nationally, regionally and internationally. Support will be provided to non-governmental organizations engaged in drug-demand reduction programmes. An information strategy will be developed to enhance the clearinghouse functions of the Division of Narcotic Drugs. Relevant information and updated findings will be disseminated through regular or ad hoc publications and multilateral co-operation and co-ordination will be strengthened.

SUBPROGRAMME 5. MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL SYSTEM

(a) Objectives

28.34 The legislative authority for the present subprogramme derives from articles 24 and 26 of the 1925 International Opium Convention; article 14 of the 1931 Convention for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs; articles 11, 12 and 13 of the 1953 Protocol for Limiting and Regulating the Cultivation of the Poppy Plant, the Production of, International and Wholesale Trade in, and Use of Opium; articles 9, 14, 14 bis, 15, 35 and 38 bis of the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the 1972 Protocol; articles 18 and 19 of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances; and articles 22 and 23 of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

28.35 For international drug control to be effective, the minimum measures of control required under the treaties have to be implemented by all countries. Cases of non-compliance with treaties can generate situations in which illicit drug activities develop and affect other countries. A major function of the Board is to monitor the implementation of treaties by national administrations, to assist them in this endeavour, to detect situations in which the aims of the conventions are endangered and to engage in consultations with Governments in order to devise and recommend remedial measures. In cases where remedial measures are not carried out, the Board may draw it to the attention of parties and competent United Nations organs. It may also recommend sanctions.

28.36 The maintenance of a world-wide balance of drugs is necessary to ensure that medical and scientific needs are adequately satisfied and to avoid over-production which may lead to leakage into illicit traffic.

28.37 Accordingly, the objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To maintain a mechanism for the continuing dialogue between Governments and INCB;

(b) To prepare studies in countries and concerning situations where the aims of the conventions are not being achieved;

(c) To analyse national laws and regulations in order to provide advisory opinions in response to requests from Governments concerning the interpretation regarding certain treaty provisions;

(d) To provide training to national drug control administrators.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

28.38 Collection, analysis and reporting of pertinent information will be continued, in order to identify possible or actual cases of treaty violations or serious illicit drug activities and to initiate appropriate action. It will involve requesting explanations, suggesting local inquiries, engaging in consultations with Governments - either at the seat of INCB or by sending Board missions to the countries in question - and recommending remedial measures. Action in accordance with the relevant treaty provisions will also be conducted vis-à-vis major producing, manufacturing and consuming countries in order to bring about a balance between the supply of, and the demand for, narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for legitimate purposes.

SUBPROGRAMME 6. INTERNATIONAL LIMITATION AND MONITORING OF LICIT PRODUCTION, MANUFACTURE, TRADE IN AND USE OF NARCOTIC DRUGS

28.39 The legislative authority of the present subprogramme derives from articles 12 to 18, 22, 23, 24 of the 1925 International Opium Convention, as amended by the Protocol of 1946; articles 6, 7, 12, 14, 18 and 22 of the 1931 Convention for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the Protocol of 1946; article 9, paragraph 4, and articles 12, 13, 15, 19, 20, 21, 21 bis, 25, 31, 40 and 49 of the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the 1972 Protocol; as well as various articles of the 1931 Convention for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, and of the 1953 Protocol; articles 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 19 of the 1953 Protocol for Limiting and Regulating the Cultivation of the Poppy Plant, the Production of International and Wholesale Trade in, and Use of Opium; and articles 13 and 16, as they relate to narcotic drugs, of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

28.40 Drugs are necessary for the alleviation of pain. At the same time, their abuse is harmful to individuals and societies. It is essential, therefore, to organize the availability of drugs for legitimate purposes in such a way as to avoid diversion into illicit channels. It can be achieved through various measures controlling cultivation, manufacture, distribution and use of narcotic drugs. It can also be achieved through the quantitative limitation of production, manufacture, trade in and use of narcotic drugs, according to annual plans elaborated jointly by Governments and INCB (estimates system).

28.41 Accordingly, the objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To maintain a clear distinction between the legitimate trade and the illicit traffic;

(b) To determine the actual requirements in narcotic drugs for medical and scientific purposes for each country and territory of the world in order to ensure adequate availability and avoid oversupply;

(c) To determine limits of quantities that each country and territory is authorized to obtain through manufacture and/or import;

(d) To provide additional safeguards to the international trade based on the authorization of each transaction by both the authorities of the importing and exporting countries;

(e) To monitor the licit trade in order to ensure that export of narcotic drugs does not exceed the estimated needs of countries for medical use;

(f) To ensure that all control measures aimed at preventing diversion to the illicit traffic are implemented by all countries;

(g) To detect weaknesses in the legislation or the administrative structures or procedures that need to be corrected.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

28.42 Continuous assessment of estimated requirements in narcotic drugs furnished by Governments will be carried out with the compilation of background information necessary for the review by INCB of annual estimates and of supplementary estimates. Computation of revised totals will be made for each country or territory and determination of the authorized level of manufacture and/or of import of narcotic drugs. Data on production, manufacture, utilization, consumption, stocks, seizures and disposal of seized drugs, imports and exports, will be gathered and analysed to ensure that all quantities of drugs available in each country and territory are accounted for, that supplies of drugs for each country and territory are within pre-established limits and that no diversion occurs in the international trade.

28.43 In addition, assistance will continue to be given to Governments in order to facilitate effective implementation by their national drug-control administrations of the estimates system by contributing to research with regard to better assessment of world-wide supply of and demand for narcotic drugs and by providing training and advice to national drug-control administrators.

SUBPROGRAMME 7. INTERNATIONAL MONITORING OF LICIT TRADE IN AND USE OF PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES

(a) Objectives

28.44 The legislative authority for the present subprogramme derives from articles 3, 12, 13, 16 and 18 of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances; articles 13 and 16, as they relate to psychotropic substances, of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances; and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1981/6, 1985/12, 1985/15, 1986/8 and 1987/30.

28.45 Since the early 1950s, a large number of pharmaceutical products with psychoactive properties (hallucinogens, stimulants, sedative hypnotics, tranquilizers and analgesics) have been developed and made available for medical use. Their dependence-producing properties and the absence of adequate national and international control measures led to significant abuse and public health problems.

28.46 In response to that development, the scope of control of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances has been extended by increasing the number of psychotropic substances subject to control from 40 in 1984 to 101 in 1989 and that number is likely to be extended further. The introduction of control measures in many countries, in accordance with the provisions of the 1971 Convention and the monitoring of the movement of psychotropic substances by INCB, contributed to the prevention and detection of diversions from licit into illicit channels and prevented or at least reduced public health problems related to the abuse of certain substances in a number of countries.

28.47 Some major manufacturing and exporting countries, however, have not yet become parties to the Convention. In addition, the provisions of the Convention are not fully implemented in a number of countries and several gaps persist in the international control of psychotropic substances.

28.48 Accordingly, the objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To monitor the licit movement of psychotropic substances;

(b) To ensure that all control measures aiming at preventing diversion to illicit traffic are implemented by all countries;

(c) To detect weaknesses in the legislation or the administrative structures or procedures that need to be improved.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

28.49 Monitoring of licit movements of psychotropic substances will continue by collating data on collating data on manufacture, stocks, trade in and use of psychotropic substances, and analysing information to enable the Board to strengthen controls, which would ensure that:

(a) All quantities of psychotropic substances manufactured, stocked, imported and exported, should be accounted for by each country and region;

(b) No diversion should occur from legal trade into illegal channels;

(c) Adequate supply should be assured, particularly by avoiding accumulation of stocks, which frequently constitute the targets of traffickers;

(d) Within the mandate, administrative procedures should be developed to improve controls or counteract new patterns of diversions.

SUBPROGRAMME 8. MONITORING OF SOLVENTS, PRECURSORS AND ESSENTIAL CHEMICALS AND ASSESSMENT OF SUBSTANCES FOR POSSIBLE MODIFICATIONS IN THE SCOPE OF CONTROL OF THE 1988 CONVENTION AGAINST ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES

(a) Objectives

28.50 The legislative authority for the present subprogramme derives from article 12, paragraphs 1-4, 7-9, 10-12 and 13, of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, which has not yet come into force, but is expected to do so during the medium-term plan period for 1992-1997; and Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/13.

28.51 The 1988 Convention aims at preventing, or drastically reducing, the access by illicit traffickers to precursors, solvents and essential chemicals used to manufacture drugs and, at the same time, to avoid hampering the use of those substances for licit purposes. Based on the knowledge of chemical processes in the illicit manufacture, and taking into account the possibility and ease of substituting alternate substances, INCB should identify and assess substances for their possible inclusion in table I or table II annexed to the 1988 Convention, if it has objective reasons to believe that such action would result in reducing the illicit manufacture of drugs without adverse effects on the availability of those substances for licit purposes. The effectiveness of the control of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances rests to a great extent on the implementation of the 1988 Convention. The periodic reporting on the illicit movement of substances listed in table I and table II of the 1988 Convention by a national co-ordinating body of the various competent authorities provides INCB, and through it the parties, with means to ascertain the extent to which the parties are discharging their obligations.

28.52 Accordingly, the objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To assess any substance proposed by a party under article 12, paragraph 2, of the 1988 Convention to be scheduled, rescheduled or descheduled;

(b) To identify and monitor solvents, precursors and essential chemicals widely used in the illicit manufacture of drugs for their assessment and possible inclusion in table I or table II of the 1988 Convention;

(c) To survey constantly the processes of illicit manufacture of drugs, in order to identify substances which, if brought under the control of the 1988 Convention, would prevent the illicit manufacture or reduce considerably its magnitude without hampering the licit activities based on the manufacture, distribution and use of those substances and initiate, when necessary, the procedure under article 12, paragraph 2, that may lead to a change in the scope of control under the 1988 Convention.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

28.53 In order to meet the objectives outlined above, the elaboration of criteria permitting an objective assessment of substances will be established based on:

(a) Criteria to measure the extent, importance and diversity of the licit use;

(b) Criteria to measure the ease of using alternate substances for both licit purposes and illicit manufacture;

(c) Criteria to determine the degree of frequency of use of a substance in illicit manufacture that warrant placing that substance under international control;

(d) Criteria to measure the seriousness of public health and social problems and the degrees of seriousness of those problems that warrant placing a substance under international control.

28.54 In addition, INCB will:

(a) Evaluate the likely effects of changing the scope of control on both the licit and the illicit manufacture of drugs;

(b) Recommend appropriate monitoring measures to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs based on surveys of control practices and illicit manufacture processes and practices;

(c) Elaborate the assessment of substances to be placed before the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

(d) Submit comments to the Economic and Social Council relating to any request by a party to the Convention to review a decision of the Commission taken under article 12, paragraph 5;

(e) Ensure that the measures established by the 1988 Convention to control the substances listed in table I and table II of that Convention are implemented;

(f) Detect diversions of substances listed in table I and table II of the Convention for the illicit manufacture of drugs, analyse the reason of such diversion and recommend any corrective action needed.

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PROPOSED MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997*

MAJOR PROGRAMME V. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Programme 29. Crime prevention and criminal justice

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* The present document contains programme 29 of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997. The complete medium-term plan will subsequently be issued in final printed form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1).

PROGRAMME 29. CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

A. Programme

1. General orientation

29.1 The main mandates for the programme on crime prevention and criminal justice are based on a number of declarations, instruments, standards and guidelines endorsed by the General Assembly on the basis of recommendations by the quinquennial Congresses on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. Growing concern about the escalation of crime, especially in its new forms and transnational dimensions, and increasing government demands for more effective action led to the elaboration of the Milan Plan of Action, 1/ adopted by the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (1985) and approved by the General Assembly, together with a number of international instruments endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolutions 40/32-40/36 of 29 November 1985.

29.2 Mindful of the negative impact of criminality on economic, social, political and cultural processes, and on the quality of life, the international community is committed to the task of minimizing crime and its harmful consequences, while simultaneously increasing the fairness and effectiveness of the criminal justice system, with due protection of human rights. Crime prevention is now deemed essential to the well-being of all people, to national development and to public safety. In order to promote concerted action against crime and delinquency, reduce their human and material cost, safeguard the rights of victims and provide humane treatment for offenders, a comprehensive perspective must be adopted. The various facets of crime and factors associated with it shall be considered in the context of the existing and prospective mandates, with a sharp focus on effective multilateral collaboration in dealing with crime problems that transcend national frontiers and therefore cannot be solved by any individual Member State.

2. Overall strategy

29.3 The programme will be implemented by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Office at Vienna. The programme will provide major input for the meetings of the relevant United Nations bodies, i.e. three sessions of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control (1992, 1994 and 1996) and the Ninth Congress (1995).

29.4 Methods are needed to fight transborder crime, in order to prevent transnational offenders from exploiting loopholes in the various legal systems and the differences between them and to deprive them of their illicit profits, while maintaining the rule of law and guaranteeing due process in every phase of criminal justice. A major effort will be made, in this connection, to provide assistance to States in undertaking the requisite action for the implementation of the new instruments likely to emerge from the Eighth Congress and be endorsed subsequently by the General Assembly, and in strengthening their respective national agencies.

29.5 In order to reduce the harmful effects of criminality, including juvenile delinquency, on life and property, and the threat posed by its transnational forms

to the sovereignty and security of States, urgent and determined efforts will have to be made to contain and reduce at least its most serious manifestations. Since the capability of offenders, especially when organized, often outpaces the mechanisms of control, incisive action is called for at all levels: to assess current and emerging trends, determine the available options, identify viable strategies, formulate appropriate policies, implement effective programmes and monitor and evaluate their impact.

29.6 Crime prevention planning and co-ordinated policies are important elements of more harmonious and sustained development. They help to reduce its adverse side-effects such as violence and crime and foster stability and confidence in public institutions as necessary conditions for economic growth and social peace. The improvement of criminal justice administration through upgraded management procedures, rationalization of decision-making, utilization of electronic information-processing and other scientific and technological advances, and system-wide planning will contribute to more efficient, equitable and expeditious criminal justice, as a co-ordinate of social justice.

29.7 Similarly, standard-setting and implementation will be continued and further consolidated as a corner-stone of more progressive practice aimed at the humane treatment of offenders, including juveniles, and at increased concern for the needs of victims.

29.8 The quality of justice needs to be enhanced, with emphasis on the observance of human rights in its administration, in accordance with the principles contained in the existing body of United Nations standards and norms, and highlighted in the formulation of new guidelines. Their impact is evident in the extent to which United Nations recommendations have served and continue to serve as a basis for legislative and other national reforms.

29.9 To assist Governments in their crime prevention and criminal justice efforts, emphasis will be placed on action-oriented research and training, on the provision of a reliable and timely information base, maximizing the store of available experience through the United Nations survey on crime trends and criminal justice operations and on special studies. Emphasis will also be given to technical co-operation activities, including training courses, pilot schemes and demonstration projects with built-in evaluation schemes, carried out in co-operation with international funding agencies, United Nations institutes and national correspondents. The capacity to respond to requests from Member States will continue to be expanded through advisory services and the wide dissemination of information, including research results, legislative and programme developments, regular or ad hoc publications, promotion of access to various data bases and other ways of facilitating the transfer of knowledge, particularly through the computerized United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice information network. Awareness of the negative consequences of crime will be raised and counteraction fostered through ongoing collaboration with non-governmental organizations and research institutions, and the activities of the scientific and professional advisory council.

29.10 In the implementation of the programme, close collaboration will be maintained with the Centre on Human Rights and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the Secretariat, the drug-related bodies, the

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and the regional institutes on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders. In addition, co-ordination with relevant United Nations bodies and agencies will be strengthened.

3. Subprogramme structure and priorities

29.11 The three subprogrammes of the programme are:

Subprogramme 1: Collaborative action against transnational crime

Subprogramme 2: Crime prevention planning and criminal justice management

Subprogramme 3: Crime prevention and criminal justice standards and norms

They relate to the developments of recent years and the recommendations thereon of United Nations policy-making bodies. All the preparatory meetings for the Eighth Congress, the Economic and Social Council in its recent resolutions 1988/70, 1989/69 and 1989/70, and the General Assembly in its resolutions 44/71 and 44/72 both of 8 December 1989, called for intensified international collaboration against organized crime and other forms of criminality transcending national frontiers, since they undermine social and economic institutions and claim increasing numbers of victims. Thus, new methods of international co-operation will be further explored, with the development of mechanisms for joint action on problems of mutual concern (subprogramme 1). This new type of collaboration requires comprehensive approaches, innovative means, integrated strategies and an improved capacity for co-ordination. Beyond that, the established United Nations activities directed at assisting Governments in formulating policy options by conducting studies, providing technical assistance, improving management techniques and promoting standard-setting and implementation (subprogrammes 2 and 3) will be continued.

29.12 The three subprogrammes are complementary, interdependent and mutually reinforcing. However, in view of the recommendations made by United Nations intergovernmental and expert bodies, subprogramme 1, entitled "Collaborative action against transnational crime", will be given highest priority in order to reflect the importance accorded by Governments, particularly those of developing countries, to action directed at the pressing problems of transnational crime.

B. Subprogrammes

SUBPROGRAMME 1. COLLABORATIVE ACTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL CRIME

(a) Objectives

29.13 The legislative authority for the present subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 40/32, 40/61, paragraphs 9 and 14, 41/107, paragraphs 2 and 6, 42/59, paragraph 2, 43/99, paragraphs 4 and 8, 44/71 and 44/72; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1986/10, section I, 1987/53, paragraphs 3 (b), (c) and (d), and 8, 1988/44, paragraphs 6 and 7, 1989/62, paragraphs 2 and 4, 1989/68, paragraphs 16-18, 1989/70, paragraphs 1 and 2; Seventh United Nations Congress resolutions 1-3, 22 and 23; the Milan Plan of Action, paragraphs 1 and 5 (b, f, g and l); and the Guiding Principles for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in the Context of Development and a New International Economic Order, principles 36-41 and 47.

29.14 The growing tendency of crime to cut across national frontiers and to use complex new forms of organization and sophisticated techniques is posing serious problems for countries, especially developing ones, which are ill-equipped to deal with them.

29.15 Effective international collaboration to prevent such crime is needed to complement and strengthen the efforts undertaken in this direction by Member States, particularly developing ones. However, countries with different systems and orientations may find it difficult to join forces unless an appropriate international framework is provided and concrete opportunities offered for multilateral action. The United Nations can fulfil a pivotal role in promoting concerted action against crime problems of common concern. The potential of the multilateral approach and collaborative arrangements in the fight against crime is as yet in its early stages and needs to be urgently and incisively developed.

29.16 Accordingly, the objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To strengthen international co-operation aimed at preventing and combating crime, particularly in its most dangerous transnational dimensions, and to improve criminal justice administration by responding to initiatives taken by Member States to promote concerted action;

(b) To formulate and help put into effect international instruments, model treaties and agreements designed to promote and facilitate the collaboration of States in criminal justice matters, so as to consolidate action and enhance efforts aimed at transborder crime prevention and control;

(c) To elaborate effective strategies and practical arrangements for collaboration among the services concerned in preventing and controlling particularly noxious forms of criminality, such as organized crime, including drug-trafficking, corruption, terrorism, environmental offences, crimes against the cultural patrimony, fraudulent operations and economic crimes;

(d) To promote and strengthen technical co-operation in all matters connected with crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular, the efforts to improve the capability of States to deal with transnational criminality;

(e) To prepare the United Nations Congresses and the sessions of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, also providing follow-up for their recommendations;

(f) To promote the necessary co-ordination with other relevant activities of the United Nations system, and to maximize the contribution of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and of the professional and scientific community.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

29.17 It is expected that the Eighth United Nations Congress will adopt and that the General Assembly will subsequently endorse several instruments designed to strengthen international co-operation in criminal matters (model treaties on mutual judicial assistance and on extradition, model agreements on the transfer of criminal proceedings and on the transfer of the supervision of foreign offenders)

and that the Congress will recommend the elaboration of more comprehensive instruments in which those and other aspects would be included.

29.18 It is also to be anticipated that the movement for an international criminal jurisdiction will gather momentum, with calls for an international and/or regional criminal courts, collaborative law enforcement initiatives and joint criminal investigations. This will require appropriate follow-up by the Secretariat, including the development of additional mechanisms for international co-operation in criminal matters and/or consolidation of available instruments with multi-pronged efforts to promote their implementation. At the same time, the Congress, with its theme of "International co-operation for crime prevention and criminal justice for the twenty-first century", is bound to call for the development of new types of practical modalities to facilitate the collaboration of the various services concerned in dealing with problems of mutual concern.

29.19 The Secretariat will therefore collect and disseminate information designed to assist Governments in identifying the most serious crimes of a transnational nature, their patterns, extent, impact and ramifications, as a basis for action against those posing a common threat, develop a body of instruments and agreements for international co-operation in criminal matters within a unified framework, and devise and promote practical arrangements for collaboration against transborder crimes at the international, regional, subregional and bilateral levels.

SUBPROGRAMME 2. CRIME PREVENTION PLANNING AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE MANAGEMENT

(a) Objectives

29.20 The legislative authority for the present subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 415 (V), 3021 (XXVII), 32/58-32/60, 35/171 and annex, 40/32, 42/59, 43/99; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1086 B (XXXIX), 1979/20, 1979/21, 1984/48, 1984/49, 1986/11, 1987/44, 1987/53, 1988/44 and 1989/68; and from the relevant recommendations of the quinquennial United Nations Congresses, especially the Sixth and Seventh Congresses, as endorsed by the Assembly.

29.21 Despite the progress made in increasing the awareness of Governments of the need for including crime prevention and control policies in their development efforts, the importance of incorporating them in national planning is still not fully recognized. In addition, the view of that public sector as a "non-productive" overhead expenditure often leads to its neglect, generating imbalances that tend to be criminogenic. Experience shows that higher standards of living, better health, education and social services do not of themselves eliminate crime. If measures are not taken to include crime prevention in broader national development planning, crime problems are likely to get out of hand. Concrete modalities must therefore be developed and training initiatives sponsored so that crime prevention planning can be actively advanced and translated into practice to achieve the desired impact.

29.22 The lack of coherent policies or consistent approaches in the criminal justice system imposes excessive costs, both human (e.g. protracted detention pending trial) and material (e.g. inefficient allocation of resources without a cost/benefit rationale). More viable policies must be furthered to improve the quality of justice and maximize limited resources that could be used more productively. The application of computer technology and other scientific innovations can help to modernize and streamline procedures and to increase the

system's capacity to deal with new and sophisticated forms of crime. In many instances the problem is a lack of criteria for assessing national practices, and of methods for proper evaluation and feedback, along with a shortage of qualified personnel. The activities envisaged under this subprogramme will seek to respond to that need, which is particularly acute in developing countries.

29.23 The objectives of the subprogramme are therefore:

(a) To provide guidelines for the formulation of national policies and programmes for the prevention and control of criminality as part of economic and social development planning;

(b) To further consistent, cost-effective, fair and humane criminal justice systems through the application of modern management techniques and recent advances in science and technology, including the use of computers;

(c) To increase the awareness of Governments, especially planning offices, of the need for including crime prevention elements in national development plans and for ongoing collaboration with criminal justice agencies;

(d) To provide an empirical basis for national and international efforts at crime prevention and control, by analysing crime trends, reporting on the measures taken and determining the areas of priority concern;

(e) To assist in upgrading national criminal justice statistical capabilities in order to permit data collection and analysis for rational decision-making;

(f) To encourage the responsiveness of crime prevention and criminal justice policies to local needs and traditions, utilizing indigenous mechanisms and community participation;

(g) To develop further the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice information network.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

29.24 Research and analysis will be undertaken, and studies and reports prepared, relating to global and specific issues of crime and crime prevention. The fourth world crime survey, scheduled for 1992, will provide the principal sources of data for the Secretariat in policy development. Due account will also be taken of socio-economic factors and socio-economic changes linked to criminality in its various forms, with a view to devising appropriate preventive strategies. Methodologically, the use of social indicators, indexes, forecasting techniques and built-in evaluation schemes will be expanded to facilitate the task of planning and to permit more accurate assessments of the results achieved.

29.25 Technical assistance and advisory services will be provided to Governments, at their request, in order to strengthen their capacity for crime prevention planning and technical co-operation will be promoted, in particular among developing countries, jointly with the United Nations crime prevention institutes. Special emphasis will be placed on training and the promotion of collaborative initiatives between national planners and crime prevention specialists, as well as on experimental innovation via pilot and demonstration projects.

29.26 On the basis of the assessments of criminal justice policies and needs derived from the third and fourth United Nations crime surveys, further areas for reform will be identified, with the formulation of guidelines and preparation of manuals for more effective criminal justice system management. The application of an integrated approach, permitting the subsystems of criminal justice to operate in harmony with each other, will be furthered to achieve greater efficiency and fairness, as will the application of new developments in science and technology, particularly the appropriate use of computers. Means of stimulating the regular generation of data, as a by-product of the system's operations and as a tool in decision-making, will be pursued, with emphasis on the development of data banks and information networks, facilitating comparative analysis and collaborative technical co-operation activities.

SUBPROGRAMME 3. CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE STANDARDS AND NORMS

(a) Objectives

29.27 The legislative authority for the present subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 34/169, 40/32-40/36, 40/143, 40/146, 41/107, 41/144, 41/149, 42/141, 42/143, 43/99, 43/153 and 44/162; and Economic and Social Council resolutions 663 C I (XXIV), 1984/47, 1984/50, 1985/33, 1985/40, 1986/10, 1989/57, 1989/60, 1989/61, and 1989/63-1989/66.

29.28 United Nations norms and guidelines, adopted by consensus, articulate the main principles of desirable practice in the humanization of criminal justice and provide a yardstick against which countries can gauge their efforts. The assessment of progress achieved in applying the instruments, as well as of the difficulties encountered, can help to guide future action designed to deal more effectively, yet humanely, with burgeoning crime. The impact of United Nations guidelines depends largely on the willingness of Member States to incorporate them in national legislation and translate them into practice, as well as to provide appropriate resources in cases of infringement. The implementation procedures developed to promote the concrete application of the United Nations standards and norms are designed to ensure a better quality of justice, based on full respect for fundamental human rights. In seeking to overcome specific obstacles to implementation (e.g. lack of proper co-ordination, shortage of resources and public apathy), Governments can draw on United Nations assistance and the experience of other States.

29.29 There are still many areas not covered where new standards and universally acceptable principles have to be introduced in response to changing needs and priorities, as identified by Member States through United Nations legislative bodies, so as to upgrade their practice and promote the observance of human rights. Some countries, in fact, are finding their criminal laws and procedures ill-suited to the changing realities and escalating crime. In order to avoid repressive policies, the introduction of reforms requires an awareness of the international standards on the part of all criminal justice personnel as well as the public at large.

29.30 The objectives of the subprogramme are therefore:

(a) To assist Governments in the formulation and implementation of standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice;

(b) To promote their dissemination and public awareness of them;

(c) To identify problems that may impede the implementation of existing standards, and to propose viable solutions;

(d) To develop United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and the administration of justice, as well as the treatment of offenders and victims;

(e) To promote, on the basis of those standards and norms, humane and effective approaches and the reforms required at the national level, with full respect for human rights;

(f) To review and monitor the implementation of existing instruments.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

29.31 During the plan period emphasis will be placed on devising practical measures by which the Organization can help Member States to implement existing United Nations standards and norms in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and on the formulation of new standards in priority areas. There are now about 10 sets of United Nations principles that require effective application. Their number will almost double after the adoption by the Eighth Congress of the proposed new standards. There will therefore be a need to follow consolidated implementation procedures for them, with their application to be kept under review. Technical assistance, including advisory services, will be provided, seminars and training courses will be organized in co-operation with the United Nations regional institutes and other initiatives will be taken to familiarize criminal justice personnel with the United Nations standards and guidelines, making them available in the requisite languages and form to all persons concerned.

29.32 Standard-setting in new areas is also to be undertaken, in accordance with the recommendations of United Nations policy-making bodies and the United Nations Congresses, some of them already defined, and others expected to be emerging from the Eighth and Ninth Congresses and from overall developments bearing on crime and its control. These include, inter alia, the status and protection of the human rights of prisoners and detainees, curtailing pre-trial detention, abolishing or decreasing the use of capital punishment, application of science and technology to crime prevention and criminal justice, and of informal social control mechanisms, such as mediation and conflict resolution, as a complement or alternative to criminal justice.

Notes

1/ See Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. 1, sect. A.

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PROPOSED MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997*

MAJOR PROGRAMME VI. REGIONAL CO-OPERATION FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Programme 30. Regional co-operation for development in Africa

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PROGRAMME 30. REGIONAL CO-OPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

A. Programme

1. General orientation

30.1 The legislative authority of the programme derives from Chapters IX and X of the Charter of the United Nations and from Economic and Social Council resolution 671 (XXV) of 25 April 1958, whereby the Council established the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and assigned it with the following responsibilities: facilitating concerted action for the economic development of Africa, including its social aspects, and maintaining and strengthening economic co-operation in the region and the co-operation of the African countries with other countries of the world. The mandate of the programme is further elaborated in a number of General Assembly and Council resolutions, as well as in the Commission's resolutions, the most recent and pertinent of which are Assembly resolutions S-13/2, 43/27, 44/24 and 44/169; Council resolutions 1988/66 and 1989/116; and Commission resolutions 673 (XXIV) and 676 (XXIV).

30.2 The programme is aimed at:

(a) Intensifying and diversifying international economic co-operation among the countries in Africa and strengthening co-ordination of policies of economic co-operation of African countries and the region as a whole with other countries and regions of the world;

(b) Providing potential opportunities for sustainable economic development process in each country of the region with specific emphasis on the economic development of the least developed, land-locked and island countries in Africa, through the implementation of appropriate policies in that respect in each country and in the region as a whole;

(c) Attaching growing importance to social aspects of economic development of the African countries and to the interrelationship of economic and social factors and development, with emphasis placed on the integration of specific population groups into the development process.

30.3 During the decade of the 1980s, the effects of aggravating factors, on the domestic front, such as the impact of unprecedented droughts, the average rate of population growth far in excess of the rate of increase in food production and the deficient economic management policies, and, on the external front, the collapse in the prices of commodities, the deterioration in the terms of trade, the declining trend in real terms in the flow of official development assistance, the widespread protectionism, the high interest rates, the currency fluctuations and the heavy debt and debt-servicing burden were superimposed on Africa and compounded the debilitating effects of its long-standing underlying fragile socio-economic structures. Africa, therefore, constituted a very weak link in the chain of global economic relations and became in effect the priority region for United Nations attention and action as the fundamental issue in the region became survival and recovery.

30.4 The mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990,

conducted by the General Assembly at its forty-third session in 1988, has indicated that the achievements gained within the framework of the implementation of the Programme in terms of African economic and social recovery and growth can only be considered as useful and substantial beginnings. The pursuit of the goals and objectives of the programme, as with those contained in the other regionally agreed strategies and approaches, must continue well into the 1990s.

30.5 It has become increasingly clear that the basic problem facing African economies is that of initiating and sustaining viable economic and social development processes. Thus, while measures must be taken to deal with short-term problems of internal and external imbalances, such as budget and balance-of-payments deficits, those measures should be taken within the framework of the long-term objectives of socio-economic recovery and transformation. During the period 1992-1997 of the medium-term plan, intensified and much-improved international co-operation will be particularly significant in enabling African countries to make the necessary break away from underdevelopment. In that connection, the maintenance of a substantially improved external environment characterized by improved aid and technical assistance modalities, a sustained, equitable and non-inflationary growth, liberal trade policies and improved market access especially for tropical products and manufactures from third world countries will be essential.

30.6 The challenge to ECA is daunting. Among the factors required to sustain a dynamic and diversified process of development and growth, human resources planning, development and utilization must be retained as a priority of the first order with a view to enhancing the capacities of all population groups, including especially farming communities, and ensuring the increased supply of middle- and high-level skilled manpower and technologies required especially for the conversion of domestic industrial raw materials into semi-finished and finished products. Attention will be paid to the critical role of entrepreneurial resources, especially as it relates to the transfer and development of technology and to the problem of mass unemployment. The employment question will itself have to be perceived and addressed in terms of the factors determining population growth and composition and their incorporation in planning and programming processes. An essential component of activity in that area will be a substantially expanded programme for the integration of women, especially rural women, in development, with increased emphasis on the promotion of employment, productive resources and income for women, and women's participation in decision-making, in the industrialization process and in the informal sector.

30.7 The near collapse of the African economies around the middle of the 1980s was primarily because of difficulties encountered in the agricultural sector. The related food crisis and its consequences were unprecedented in the region's history. The priority attention accorded to the sector in the last few years must, therefore, continue.

30.8 The challenge to industry in Africa in the 1990s will be to lay a sound foundation for self-reliant and self-sustaining industrialization by shifting the emphasis from import-dependent consumer goods industries to resource-base and engineering core industries in food processing, textiles, forest and wood, metals, mechanical, chemicals and petro-chemicals and building materials within the framework of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa. During the 1990s, therefore, renewed effort will have to be concentrated on creating favourable conditions for small-scale industries and the effective functioning of

private and public enterprises. Emphasis will also be put on the adoption by African countries of sound industrial policies, plans and programmes and on the institution and building of technological and management capabilities.

30.9 Infrastructure for self-reliant and self-sustaining diversified development and economic growth embraces a wide range of essential institutions, services and physical structures. Special attention will have to be paid to the influence of transport and communications on the nature and dynamics of domestic markets and the need in that regard for the effective integration of national and multinational economies. The implementation of the programme for the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa should serve as a useful framework in that regard. The potential inherent in tourism for promoting intra-African co-operation and development should also be enhanced through the development of intra-African tourism, establishment of inter-State tourist circuits and development of the required technical skills.

30.10 In other sectors of the economy, the region will be faced with the need to reform market structures, intensify interregional trade and strengthen trade-oriented and multisectoral intergovernmental organizations and financial institutions. Further efforts are required for the creation of a favourable environment for inflows of financial resources to the countries of the region and conditions for their effective utilization. The regional programme for social development will need to be deepened in the 1990s in order to enhance the appropriate social environment and requirements for economic productivity, social welfare and individual well-being. Another important area is the continual assessment of the role of the public sector with a view to improving its efficiency and effectiveness, improving the performance of public enterprises, reforming the public services to make them more development oriented, and formulating measures for encouraging the participation of indigenous entrepreneurs in the development of the private and public sectors of the economies. Finally, the need for substantial improvement of statistical and information systems in the region based on the greater use of computer technology is essential for the improvement of the decision-making process in different sectors of the economy at the country, subregional and regional levels.

2. Overall strategy

30.11 The programme will be implemented by the secretariat of ECA. The Commission will continue to be a focal point in developing strategies for enhancing the regional and interregional co-operation in the interests of African countries. During the period 1992-1997 of the medium-term plan, the secretariat will undertake economic and social research and analyses of specific issues, in accordance with priorities established by the Commission, provide substantive and conference-servicing of the Commission, as and when required, and organize seminars and other events in member countries and for groups of countries with a view to helping them cope with specific problems affecting them. The secretariat of ECA will disseminate findings of those meetings to all interested parties; it will also provide technical assistance and advisory services to member States, promote and support the development of appropriate institutions and identify and execute technical co-operation activities for the direct benefit of member States. In that context, particular attention will be paid to efforts to promote and sustain economic co-operation and to integrate, through the identification and formulation of multisectoral integration projects, at the subregional level, in such critical

sectors as food and agriculture, industry, energy, transport and communications, as well as to promote the effective use of institutions.

30.12 In the course of the implementation of the programme, the Commission will strengthen joint programming and formal working links with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, which provide funds for some of ECA activities in their respective areas of interest. In addition, it will also co-operate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT, the United Nations Population Fund, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the International Telecommunication Union and the Universal Postal Union, in matters concerning the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa and with the World Bank, the International Labour Organisation, the World Food Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in activities relating to human resources planning, development and utilization. Particular attention will be paid to co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in implementing African intergovernmental agreements on, and support for, the determination of the orientation and priorities for its regional inter-country economic and technical co-operation programmes. Furthermore, the Commission will actively co-operate with other regional commissions on specific issues of mutual concern and in particular with the Economic Commission for Europe in enhancing the process of South-North co-operation.

30.13 All of those links, together with several others established with agencies outside the United Nations system, such as the Organization of African Unity, the African Development Bank, and other multilateral and bilateral programmes and institutions, will be progressively deepened and extended to enhance integrated joint programming for the execution of the programme. Much more use will be made of system-wide inter-agency task forces for co-ordinating programme implementation. The Commission will also continue to participate effectively in cross-organizational programme analyses and in the implementation of the system-wide medium-term plan.

3. Subprogramme structure and priorities

30.14 In the light of the above orientation and strategies for the region, the programme will consist of the following subprogrammes:

Subprogramme 1. Development issues and policies in the ECA region

Subprogramme 2. Agricultural and rural development

Subprogramme 3. Marine affairs

Subprogramme 4. Least developed, land-locked and island countries

Subprogramme 5. Public administration and fiscal affairs

Subprogramme 6. Social development

Subprogramme 7. Advancement of women

Subprogramme 8. Environment

Subprogramme 9. Human settlements

Subprogramme 10. Industrial development

Subprogramme 11. Trade development and co-operation

Subprogramme 12. Monetary and financial policies and strategies

Subprogramme 13. Natural resources

Subprogramme 14. Energy

Subprogramme 15. Science and technology

Subprogramme 16. Population

Subprogramme 17. Transport, communications and tourism

Subprogramme 18. Statistical development

30.15 Among the objectives of the different sectors of the economy of the ECA region, priority attention will be paid to those that are crucial in defining and accelerating the scope and pace of economic and social development of the region in the 1990s. In that context, high priority will be attached to human resources planning, development and utilization, with a view to a better integration of all population groups in development. That will be done in the context of activities to be undertaken under subprogramme 1 (Development issues and policies in the ECA region). High priority will also be given to subprogramme 2 (Agricultural and rural development), subprogramme 10 (Industrial development), subprogramme 14 (Energy) and subprogramme 17 (Transport, communications and tourism).

B. Subprogrammes

SUBPROGRAMME 1. DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES IN THE ECA REGION

(a) Objectives

30.16 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from various General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions, the most recent and pertinent of which are Assembly resolutions S-13/2, 40/100, 41/142, 41/174, 42/54, 43/194, 44/57, 44/78, 44/169, 44/221, 44/222 and 44/223; Council resolutions 1986/51, 1987/48, 1989/72 and 1989/120; and Commission resolutions 601 (XXIII), 631 (XXIII), 633 (XXIII), 644 (XXIII), 658 (XXIV), 659 (XXIV), 673 (XXIV) and 676 (XXIV).

30.17 The subprogramme addresses the problems of making key policy decisions with long gestation periods and requiring a coherent macro-economic and social framework. Many countries of the region experience limited structural change and social transformation and modest economic growth. Productivity is low and large

groups of the population of those countries live below the poverty level. Links between the economic sectors are tenuous. Most of those countries lack the necessary resources, the technological infrastructure and the required capacity for development. Changes in the structure of production, trade and consumption patterns, as well as the efficient use of scarce resources, are required in order to sustain an equitable growth for African countries and the region as a whole.

30.18 Despite some progress in economic and social development, it has proved difficult to translate objectives into specific regional policies suited to very changing international and regional environments. There is still a different understanding and assessment of the social and economic forces at work in the process of development, of the proper policy instruments to use and of the conditions required for their respective applications in the region. Further co-ordination of regional policies of economic and social development and the creation of effective regional and interregional integration arrangements are therefore essential.

30.19 Among the problems affecting the development process in the region, the crucial issue is the coherent planning, development and utilization of human resources. The problem is rooted in inadequate educational and training systems, which produce individuals with general knowledge and skills not suited to the immediate needs of national development. At the same time, severe shortages of skilled and highly qualified manpower in the key sectors of the economy have continued to be experienced. That problem has been compounded by the use of the available skilled and highly qualified manpower in tasks unrelated to their fields of specialization. One obvious result, therefore, has been an increasing tendency to rely heavily on expatriate personnel, especially in the scientific, technical and technological fields, as a solution to meeting immediate development needs, while efforts are being made to redress the education imbalance and bias. More important, however, is that highly qualified and skilled African personnel continue to leave their countries for employment elsewhere, particularly in developed countries, owing to the unfavourable social and economic conditions at home.

30.20 Furthermore, inadequacies in effective human resources and employment planning have tended to limit the contribution that human resources could make to economic growth and socio-economic development. It is therefore important to accelerate efforts to reverse the brain drain and to institute measures for assisting returnees and refugees to become productive.

30.21 In the light of that orientation, the objective of the subprogramme is the promotion of a continuous understanding of the process of economic and social development and growth in Africa and encouragement of a unified approach to development analysis and planning in the context of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa, the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 and the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-Economic Recovery and Transformation, aimed at the socio-economic recovery and development of the region.

30.22 In the field of planning, development and utilization of human resources, the objective of the subprogramme is to assist African countries in promoting the effective development of human resources necessary for accelerated economic and social development in all sectors of the national economy and to strengthen

capabilities for human resources planning, development and utilization as a basis for optimizing the contribution of human resources to development.

30.23 Furthermore, the objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To enhance the capability of member States to collect, store, retrieve and disseminate information on issues of African development;

(b) To develop and maintain a series of numeric and non-numeric databases for storage and dissemination of development information to be used by member States;

(c) To train personnel from member States, subregional and regional institutions in the introduction and utilization of up-to-date methods of development information processing and dissemination;

(d) To develop and encourage acceptance of norms and standards for harmonizing development documentation and information.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.24 During the period 1992-1997, the secretariat of ECA will continue research and studies of specific factors influencing the African economic and social situation, including aspects of co-ordination of the development process. The secretariat will continue to publish the annual survey of economic and social conditions in Africa and the annual economic report on Africa. Training of African planning specialists in plan preparation, implementation techniques and methodology and the enhancement of planning physical structures and capabilities will be continued in close co-operation with the African Institute for Economic Development Planning.

30.25 The ECA secretariat will also assist member States in planning, designing, managing, monitoring and evaluating human resources development and utilization by conducting and organizing, on the basis of related studies, training workshops, seminars and conferences at national, subregional and regional levels for senior government officials and personnel from both the private and parastatal sectors, providing advisory services to member States on manpower and employment planning, assisting them in strengthening their institutional machinery for human resources development and utilization, and evaluating education and training programmes.

30.26 Finally, the secretariat will provide advisory services on development of information management systems and technology, and training of staff of national, subregional and regional institutions in computerized information management techniques, harmonization of standards and methodologies, development of databases on social and economic development in Africa for dissemination of that information to national, subregional and regional participating centres as well as the general public.

SUBPROGRAMME 2. AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(a) Objectives

30.27 The legislative authority for the programme is elaborated in various General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions, the most recent and pertinent of which are Assembly resolutions

S-13/2, 42/186, 43/190, 43/191 and 44/78; Council resolutions 1987/90 and 1989/80; and Commission resolutions 548 (XX), 565 (XXI), 598 (XXII) and 641 (XXIII).

30.28 The subprogramme addresses the problems of formulating and implementing appropriate and coherent agricultural and rural development policies, plans and programmes with emphasis on their technical, institutional and infrastructural aspects. The production base in Africa is characterized by weak inter-sectoral linkages. A major problem facing many countries in the region is the non-availability of, or inability to apply, appropriate policies that would ensure a steady increase in agricultural productivity through the application of appropriate technology. The situation is aggravated by the ineffective operation of most of the agricultural institutions and infrastructures.

30.29 The main issues to be addressed in that regard include co-ordination of agricultural and forestry research, including technology transfer particularly to small holders; the formulation and application of appropriate policy instruments with regard to the use of agricultural inputs, such as fertilizers, pesticides, improved seeds, farm tools, machinery and implements and animal inputs; adoption of measures for the rational utilization and conservation of farm land, water and edible resources of fauna and flora; promotion of policies and measures for proper plant and animal protection and identification and recommendation of policies for developing market, store, transport and finance infrastructures in order to encourage agricultural production.

30.30 In the field of rural development, an integrated approach is required to improve the efficiency of existing institutions and to encourage the establishment of new ones when necessary to cope with the development problems of agricultural and rural sectors. In that context, further efforts are necessary for encouraging and strengthening both the planning, monitoring and evaluation of rural development projects and programmes within the overall framework of development of the agricultural sector and addressing issues of inadequate socio-economic infrastructures in rural areas and social equity among the rural population, as well as the lack of self-reliance and existing high dependence of rural communities on external assistance and low local participation in the decision-making process in rural areas.

30.31 The objectives of the subprogramme are to assist the ECA members in formulating and implementing appropriate policies and strategies, with a view to attaining self-sufficiency in food and enhancing national and regional capabilities and the capacity for self-sustaining expansion in the production systems of African agriculture.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.32 In-depth analyses will be undertaken, the conclusions and recommendations of which will be conveyed through workshops, seminars or advisory services with a view to assisting member States in improving their capabilities in the planning and management of the food and agricultural sectors. Special attention will be paid to the acquisition of experience and an improved capacity for designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating integrated agricultural, forestry and rural development programmes, and to improving social and economic infrastructures on a self-sustaining basis.

30.33 The secretariat will also assist the ECA members in improving or accelerating the development of adequate infrastructures, especially in the marketing subsector, and in establishing effective inter-regional co-operation with efforts aimed at improving agricultural and rural support services. Furthermore, the ECA secretariat will disseminate information on selected issues of agricultural, forestry and rural development, in particular, by organizing seminars and symposia.

SUBPROGRAMME 3. MARINE AFFAIRS

(a) Objectives

30.34 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolution 37/66 and Economic Commission for Africa resolution 478 (XVIII).

30.35 Although the African seas are known to be rich in both living and non-living resources, most of the African States lack adequate capabilities for effective development and utilization of those resources. The principal problem encountered is the lack of appropriate policies and of related capability to enhance productivity and to adopt new technologies in the exploitation of sea resources.

30.36 In spite of their nutritional importance and low prices, fisheries resources are inadequately exploited. That situation is accompanied by a lack of parallel development in related sectors, notably, in the areas of research, training and stock assessment, as well as by the absence of industries for the exploitation of living resources at the national or regional levels, and inadequate joint ventures or agreements with foreign companies and Governments in the exploitation of both living and non-living resources.

30.37 The objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To promote the development of African capabilitites for exploration, exploitation and management of the living and non-living resources of the sea;

(b) To develop improved systems for the expansion of fisheries and formulate coherent policies with a view to increasing the food and protein supplies of the region's population.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.38 Assistance to member countries and intergovernmental organizations will be provided in strengthening capabilities for the formulation of coherent policies and activities under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and in improvement of scientific and technological research through assessment of available resources in exclusive economic zones and stock-taking of various fish species, including fresh-water fish, introduction of advance technologies adapted to fishing, and development of a database with a view to enhancing the technical and scientific knowledge of member States on matters of interest pertaining to living and non-living sea resources.

30.39 The Secretariat will also organize training for member States in living and non-living marine resources development and management at different managerial levels, and provide assistance to States in the formulation of investment projects with particular reference to such areas as rehabilitation of existing fishing

fleets and fish processing, the promotion of joint investment policies and programmes in the exploitation of resources commonly owned or shared by different countries, and strengthening marketing capabilities of the countries of the region in processing their marine resources. The Secretariat will also continue to maintain and develop the information data on different aspects of the activities in that sector of the African economy and disseminate information on selected issues to all interested parties, as and when required.

SUBPROGRAMME 4. LEAST DEVELOPED, LAND-LOCKED AND ISLAND COUNTRIES

(a) Objectives

30.40 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from various General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions, the most recent and pertinent of which are Assembly resolutions S-11/4, 39/29, 39/174, 42/174, 42/177, 42/186 and 44/220; Council resolution 1989/89; and Commission resolution 667 (XXIV).

30.41 The least developed, land-locked, and island countries in Africa are generally characterized by very low per capita income, with the majority of the population living at below the minimum basic needs standards. The economic situation of most of those countries is characterized by extremely low agricultural productivity and weak agro-support institutions, underexploited natural resources, especially minerals and energy, low per capita export levels, acute scarcity of skilled personnel at all levels, and weak institutional and physical infrastructure, especially in the areas of transport and communications.

30.42 The objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To monitor the economic development of the least developed, land-locked and island countries in Africa and to promote appropriate policies for their transformation toward self-sustained development;

(b) To assist them within the framework of the implementation of regionally and internationally agreed strategies and of the programme of action adopted to address their special and peculiar problems.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.43 In-depth studies of the economies of the least developed, land-locked, semi-land-locked and island countries in Africa as a group, will continue to be undertaken by the ECA secretariat. The institutional arrangements for the monitoring, follow-up and review of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 36/194 of 17 December 1981, will also have to be continued.

30.44 Technical advisory services will also be provided to the members of the Commission, upon request, to assist the least developed, land-locked and island countries in Africa in formulating plans and programmes on the basis of appropriate methodologies. Technical co-operation projects will be identified and submitted to donors for funding. The least developed, land-locked, and island countries in Africa will be given preference in inter-country technical co-operation projects. Concerted efforts will be made for follow-up, monitoring, periodic review and

evaluation of follow-up arrangements to the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries in the light of the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

30.45 Specifically, efforts will be directed at:

(a) Assessing international efforts as they relate to the promotion of the necessary structural changes required to overcome the extreme economic difficulties of those countries, and enabling them to achieve adequate internationally acceptable minimum standards of living. Special attention will be paid to the need to improve aid modalities, adjust the volume of aid and its use to development needs of the countries and devise appropriate changes in aid programmes;

(b) Undertaking studies that will assist least developed, land-locked and island countries in Africa to formulate plans and programmes on the basis of appropriate planning methodologies with a view to transforming their economies;

(c) Assisting least developed, land-locked and island countries in Africa to secure emergency support in case of natural disasters;

(d) Undertaking studies on efficient macro-economic management, developing structural adjustment and stabilizing programmes of the economies of those countries, including effective mobilization and efficient utilization of domestic and human resources.

SUBPROGRAMME 5. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND FISCAL AFFAIRS

(a) Objectives

30.46 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from various General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions, the most recent and pertinent of which are Assembly resolutions 40/213 and 41/182; Council resolutions 1987/5, 1987/92 and 1988/7; and Commission resolution 619 (XXII).

30.47 Despite efforts by Governments in several African countries to improve the performance of their public services in the management of development, the results achieved, as evidenced from the economic crises of the 1970s and 1980s, have been marginal. Numerous problems persist, such as the tardiness of the African civil service to transform itself from a colonial, rule-bound service to that of a development-oriented one, the inadequate specialized skills and the knowledge, capability and motivation that will help the African public service to respond effectively to development challenges.

30.48 The contribution of the public enterprise sector to the process of economic development has failed to match expectations. State-owned enterprises that have been expected to provide financial surplus to the government budget have often required massive subsidization, thus imposing a fiscal burden on the national economy. There has been minimal accomplishment of the non-commercial objectives or goals set for African public enterprises.

30.49 Training institutions and programmes for the training of public administrators have not been geared to the management of economic and social development and have, therefore, impaired the performance of the public services.

30.50 There has been inadequate mobilization of domestic financial resources to finance both current and capital expenditures. That fiscal situation has given rise to the heavy public debt and its attendant servicing burden. The contributory factors, among other issues, have been the narrow base of the African taxation systems and the related inflexibility in responding to changes in social, economic and development objectives and programmes. With regard to expenditure programming, there has been no proper determination of programme priorities in accordance with development objectives for the allocation of financial resources, resulting therefore, in the growth of expenditures for those programmes and projects that do not contribute to growth and development.

30.51 The objectives of the subprogramme are to assist member States in:

(a) Strengthening public administration institutions, systems, practices and processes for the improved management of economic development;

(b) Promoting the contribution of indigenous entrepreneurs in both the private and public sectors;

(c) Improving the performance of public enterprises and public financial management for efficient mobilization, allocation and control of financial resources;

(d) Adopting measures to redress the shortage of skilled manpower for the management of the public services.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.52 Advisory services will be provided for improving the performance of the public service in the development process and for improving public financial management. Research studies will be undertaken on ways and means of improving the performance of public enterprises and on the restructuring of taxation systems for adequate mobilization of domestic resources and effective measures for controlling public enterprises. Training courses, seminars and workshops will be organized in collaboration with requesting member States for their public administrators. Assistance will be provided for the strengthening of capabilities of national and subregional training and research institutions and associations dealing with improvement in public administration and management, budgetary and taxation systems, policies and administration.

SUBPROGRAMME 6. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

(a) Objectives

30.53 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions, the most recent and pertinent of which are Assembly resolutions S-13/2, 40/33, 40/34, 40/35, 41/149, 43/94, 43/98, 43/99, 44/67, 44/70 and 44/72; Council resolutions 1987/51, 1988/11, 1989/46, 1989/52, 1989/59, 1989/62, 1989/63, 1989/66, 1989/68 and 1989/69; and Commission resolution 642 (XXIII).

30.54 Available data show that youth unemployment, underemployment, illiteracy, rural exodus, juvenile delinquency and crime are still on the rise in most African

countries. The economic and social crisis of the 1980s has aggravated that situation and made youth the most vulnerable group.

30.55 An estimated 50 million cases of disability are found in Africa. Inadequate programmes of primary health care and services, epidemics, malnutrition, hunger and starvation, natural calamities, environmental hazards, including various forms of accidents, armed conflicts, civil strifes and wars of liberation are among the major causes of disability and its attendant handicapping effects.

30.56 In the traditional African family, the elderly enjoy and are accorded a privileged position in society. The process of modernization, however, manifested by such factors as urbanization, industrialization, rising rates of rural-urban migration, changing social structures, and the advent of the nuclear family, is gradually transforming the unique position of the elderly in society. At the same time, little is known about the demographic, social and economic status of the steadily growing elderly population in African countries.

30.57 The rising rates of crime, both conventional and non-conventional, pose a serious threat to the economic and social well-being of African countries. Besides impairing the quality of life, crime interferes and even nullifies some of Africa's hard-won development gains.

30.58 In the light of the above problems, the objectives of the subprogramme are to support the efforts of member States in:

(a) The design, implementation and evaluation of appropriate policies, programmes, strategies and services for the effective integration and participation of youth, disabled persons and the elderly in social and economic life and for the effective prevention of crime and juvenile delinquency;

(b) The administration of criminal and juvenile justice in the context of overall national development.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.59 A number of activities will be undertaken, including action-oriented research, as a basis for the formulation, implementation and evaluation of effective and relevant social policies, programmes, strategies and services; training courses, workshops, seminars, expert meetings, study tours for the exchange of ideas and experience and for the formulation of common strategies; substantial support in the establishment and strengthening of appropriate national and regional organizations, associations, institutions, co-ordinating bodies and structures; and technical advisory services to assist in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of relevant social policies, programmes and services.

30.60 The Secretariat will also disseminate information on specific issues of social development of the region through publication of its reports and studies, as well as of other relevant documentation and provide other information services in the field of social development to the ECA members as and when required. The ECA secretariat will also co-operate with regional institutions in the field of social development, such as the African Rehabilitation Institute and the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders on subjects of mutual concern.

SUBPROGRAMME 7. ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

(a) Objectives

30.61 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from various General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions, the most recent and pertinent of which are Assembly resolutions 42/61, 42/65, 44/75, 44/77 and 44/78; Council resolutions 1987/86, 1988/19, 1988/22, 1988/29, 1989/29, 1989/33, 1989/37 and 1989/43; and Commission resolutions 597 (XXII) and 666 (XXIV).

30.62 While legal equality in the labour market is a pre-requisite for promoting employment for women, it is not sufficient. Often women do not possess the required qualifications and training for jobs available. Those that are in the productive sectors, such as agriculture, experience low productivity levels as they have inadequate access to training, credit or technologies. Those inadequacies prevent the effective participation of women in the decision-making process, in particular in policy formulation and the design of development plans.

30.63 There is also a need to strengthen the database on women, information networks need to be strengthened and adequate use made of public information networks and other media for disseminating data on women.

30.64 In the framework of the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development for 1990-1995 and the Arusha Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa beyond the United Nations Decade for Women, as well as the Abuja Declaration, the overall objective of the subprogramme is to assist the ECA member States towards increased improvement and more effective participation of women in the socio-economic development of the region. Specifically, the subprogramme will aim at promoting employment, productive resources and income for women, enhanced participation of women in decision-making, and the strengthening of the database and information networks for the formulation of policies and programmes for women.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.65 The Secretariat will undertake overall and sectoral analyses of emerging socio-economic trends and their impact on African women, in particular, by utilizing a data-bank information network. Promotion of employment opportunities of women in agro-industries will be continued through the introduction of experimental projects in selected countries in the agriculture sector and the improvement of the position of women for the control of production and distribution services will be sought through training and access to credit. Through management training courses and seminars, efforts will be made to assist women to attain decision-making levels in business and in the formulation of agricultural and industrial policies.

SUBPROGRAMME 8. ENVIRONMENT

(a) Objectives

30.66 The legislative authority for the subprogramme is derived from various General Assembly and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions, the most recent and pertinent of which are Assembly resolutions 42/186, 42/187, 42/188, 42/189,

43/53, 44/226 and 44/227; and Commission resolutions 540 (XX), 578 (XXI), 621 (XXII), 635 (XXIII), 641 (XXIII), 645 (XXIII) and 651 (XXIII).

30.67 Events over the last five years in Africa, drought, desertification, and recently the dumping of hazardous and toxic wastes, as well as the depletion of the ozone layer and global warming, have highlighted the importance of environmental management for environmentally sound and sustainable development. While the level of environmental awareness has increased and environment activities have received greater attention through initiatives taken by member States and the support provided by ECA, other agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations working on environmental matters in Africa, the need remains acute for assistance in developing national, subregional and regional capabilities for implementing programmes aimed at achieving sustained development through sound environmental management.

30.68 The objectives of the subprogramme are to assist the ECA members in developing and strengthening existing national, subregional and regional instruments needed for environmental management, assessment and conservation. Emphasis will be laid on the development of institutional and human resources capabilities, including policy guidelines, legislative and administrative mechanisms for the environmentally-sound exploitation and utilization of natural resources, pollution control and the promotion of environmental conservation and management by creating and enhancing environmental awareness.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.69 Advisory services, workshops, seminars, fellowships and study tours will be organized in order to help member States in developing and/or strengthening existing and ongoing national capabilities and programmes for environmental management, assessment and conservation for sustainable environmentally sound development. In addition, research studies on issues of regional environment will be carried out by the Secretariat to make available information to all concerned on a systematic basis. The related findings will be disseminated through publications and activity reports in order to promote environmental awareness at the grassroot level.

SUBPROGRAMME 9. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

(a) Objectives

30.70 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/191.

30.71 Integrated human settlements planning has received very little attention. The complementarity between rural and urban sectors has not been emphasized. The urban economy is almost entirely dependent on imported manufactured goods and services, as well as skills and factor inputs for locally produced consumer goods. The reliance on foreign construction firms and expertise has made rural transformation and urban renewal prohibitive.

30.72 The dearth of rural infrastructure and services and the predominance of the capital city, compounded by poor farming practices along with the spread of marginal land and desertification, have triggered mass migration from the rural hinterland. In turn, the ever decreasing carrying capacity of the rural sector has

given rise to low density and a scattered settlement pattern. Concomitantly, the towns and major cities have faced overcrowding and poor living conditions. Unemployment and underemployment and other urban problems have overly stretched the meagre resources of municipal authorities. The conjunction of urban ills and rural deprivation have often frustrated development efforts in the region.

30.73 In the light of the above, the development of human settlements management capacity within a decentralized administrative and financial framework, along with the need for trained personnel for the design and implementation of infrastructure and services, constitute a major challenge to the countries of the region.

30.74 The objectives of the subprogramme are to assist member States in redressing the rural/urban imbalances through the formulation and implementation of coherent regional policies, programme and projects, in particular by:

(a) Strengthening the indigenous construction sector, including the production and utilization of locally produced building materials within a decentralized administration and financial framework conducive for attracting venture capital, and the participation of the private sector and the local population in the provision of infrastructure and services;

(b) Directing more resources to the rural economy for the provision of infrastructure and services commensurate with the role the rural sector is expected to play in the national development process;

(c) Promoting a systematic exchange of information and experience between member States in the field of human settlements development.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.75 The thrust of activities will focus on:

(a) Organizing workshops and seminars, preparing studies, reports and technical publications dealing with the formulation and implementation of policies, programmes and projects, which will emphasize the location of infrastructure and services, as well as the efficient distribution of activities and population along with an appropriate administrative and financial framework for accelerated rural reconstruction and decentralization of major cities, and mobilizing resources both locally and internationally for the promotion of an indigenous construction sector, including the production of local building materials;

(b) Assisting member States in the promotion of a network of training centres and institutions specializing in the field of human settlements, in order to train personnel for the implementation of planned activities;

(c) Assisting member States in the collection and processing of information data in the field of human settlements with a view to establishing a regional data base.

SUBPROGRAMME 10. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

(a) Objectives

30.76 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions, the most recent and pertinent of which are Assembly resolution 44/237; Council resolutions 1987/20 and 1989/115; and Commission resolutions 531 (XX), 564 (XXII), 588 (XXII), 656 (XXIV) and 662 (XXIV).

30.77 Industrial policies and strategies formulated at the eve of independence have given rise to the establishment of import-intensive and technologically dependent industries in most countries of Africa, both in the consumer- and capital-goods subsectors. In addition, most of these industries were not designed for the satisfaction of the needs of a large domestic market. As a result, in many cases, basic industries, such as chemical engineering and metal, have not been given adequate attention and excessive dependence on imported factor inputs coupled with narrow demand have turned many industries into non-profitable ventures, which led to widespread under-utilization of installed capacity or the closing of many industries. In addition, small-scale industries, which are expected to create employment and contribute substantially to the development of African economies, are not yet well developed and promoted. The industrial sector has also failed to established a dynamic link with the agriculture sector.

30.78 While the development of small-scale, cottage and rural industries is increasingly given priority attention by African countries, there still is a need for greater awareness of the role of small-scale industries in the building up of a sound and self-sustained industrial base characterized by the existence of linkages within the industrial sector and between industry and other sectors.

30.79 The objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To assist the ECA members and intergovernmental organizations in Africa in the development and promotion of capabilities for the formulation of industrial policies, plans and strategies geared towards industrial productivity and nationalization of existing industrial structure;

(b) To promote industrial programmes and projects aimed at creating national or multinational resource-based and core-engineering industries;

(c) To promote technological and entrepreneurial capabilities, especially for small-scale industries;

(d) To assist in building and strengthening subregional and regional institutions for industrial development in the fields of technology, standardization, production and management.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.80 The ECA secretariat will undertake research studies and provide advisory services to member States, with a view of developing and promoting capabilities for formulation of industrial policies and strategies geared towards restructuring and rehabilitating the industrial sector. It will organize country and subregional workshops and seminars for government officials and individual entrepreneurs with a

view of promoting small-scale industries and ensuring that those industries are integrated into the development process. Furthermore, the ECA secretariat will prepare and conduct training programmes in order to improve and strengthen capabilities of African countries in industrial planning, establishment and management of industries and the rehabilitation of existing industries within the framework of subregional economic policies. Such activities will be organized in collaboration with the secretariats of UNIDO, the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning, the African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing, the African Regional Centre for Technology and the African Regional Organization for Standardization.

30.81 Major activities in the field of agro- and forest-based industries will include preparation of technical studies and provision of technical advisory services to Governments on the rehabilitation and upgrading of some of the identified agro- and forest-based industries; identification, preparation, appraisal and promotion of projects aimed at expanding food preservation and processing industries; organization of training courses, seminars and study tours on managing agro- and forest-based industries with special emphasis on the aspects of preservation, processing and storage of food. Consultations among the ECA members and promotional meetings between countries and potential donors and partners will also be organized.

SUBPROGRAMME 11. TRADE DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION

(a) Objectives

30.82 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions S-13/2, 42/175 and 44/218; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1988/68 and 1989/118; and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions 568 (XXI), 590 (XXII), 591 (XXII) and 593 (XXII).

30.83 The African countries continue to experience a low level of domestic trade, which is characterized by lopsided distribution and marketing policies in which serious shortages of consumption of goods and food exist side-by-side with surpluses within the same economy. Low priority is still accorded in the rural areas to trade services, as well as trade financing and credit. Intra-African trade continues to have a declining role in the development process and shows insufficient positive results. It is further aggravated by continued prohibitive tariff and non-tariff barrier policies even where treaties for co-operation explicitly call for trade liberalization within the preferential trade areas. The problem of continued dominance of primary commodity exports in Africa's external trade and the lack of diversification continue to be a major obstacle in international trade. The lack of up-to-date and reliable trade statistics and information, as well as inadequate marketing strategies and export techniques, also constitute a priority problem to be addressed.

30.84 The objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To enhance Africa's trade sector through the adoption of appropriate measures, policies and strategies for the expansion of domestic, regional and external trade;

(b) To strengthen existing institutions for subregional trade co-operation by making them more operational and responsive to Africa's trade requirements and help harmonize their negotiating positions in all international conferences on trade.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.85 The strategy for the period 1992-1997 of the medium-term plan will be significantly different from that elaborated in the present period. The institution-building process for trade promotion and co-operation is about to be completed and new efforts will be directed towards the strengthening of operational capabilities of those institutions.

30.86 Priority will be given to supporting the development of import-substitution policies, market research, demand and supply analysis and trade facilitation at the country, regional and interregional levels. The secretariat will disseminate the findings of studies and analyses, in particular through seminars, workshops and symposia. The secretariat will assist the Commission in developing aggressive trade promotion strategies and mechanisms to improve the export performance of the African countries and improve the foreign exchange capabilities, strengthening existing trade institutions at the national and subregional level through, inter alia, specific-targeted training and skills upgrading programmes in the field of trade.

SUBPROGRAMME 12. MONETARY AND FINANCIAL POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

(a) Objectives

30.87 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions, the most recent and pertinent of which are Assembly resolutions 43/198 and 44/205; Council resolution 1988/7; and Commission resolution 619 (XXII).

30.88 During the 1980s, the African monetary and financial situation had deteriorated to a point where existing policies, structures and institutions were unable to support reasonable or sustained rates of growth and development. Although many financial and monetary institutions had been created and are operational, the ECA members are, in practice, not relying on or using them to provide technical support and advisory services in that area. The monetary and financial situation is characterized by a large development financing gap, increased accumulated arrears in debt servicing and the overall debt stock, and a general inability to cope with an increasingly less favourable international monetary and financial environment. The subregional monetary and financial institutions, particularly in respect of payments and clearing arrangements, are too weak and ineffective to provide the support required in that area by member States.

30.89 The objectives of the subprogramme are to assist:

(a) In the promotion of orderly and effective monetary and financial co-operation at the subregional and regional levels, as a means of enhancing better management of resources, including external debt;

(b) In strengthening the existing institutional machinery for co-operation and consultation and in increasing the exchange of information on development financing and investment;

(c) In the establishment of subregional and regional monetary and financial institutions, where appropriate, in particular, the African Monetary Fund and the African Payments Union.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.90 During the period 1992-1997, the ECA secretariat will focus on measures to be elaborated for halting or reversing the downward trends in resource inflows, especially on concessional terms. New practical and more imaginative solutions will be sought to deal with the mounting external debt of the African countries and the problems of inadequacy of financing, including low domestic savings. Through workshops, studies and analyses of developments and trends in that sector of the African economy, measures will be devised for:

(a) Assessing the impact of external development on the African economies, particularly the new monetary arrangements within the European Monetary System;

(b) Strengthening of existing institutions for regional monetary and financial co-operation and the establishment and operationalization of an African Monetary Fund;

(c) Elaborating more intensive programmes and policies for resources management with emphasis placed on the external debt problems;

(d) Reversing the flight of capital and attracting direct foreign investments, especially in subregional and regional projects and programmes;

(e) Fostering increased self-reliance in financing development through more intensive programmes for domestic savings and resources mobilization.

SUBPROGRAMME 13. NATURAL RESOURCES

(a) Objectives

30.91 The legislative authority of the subprogramme derives from General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions, the most recent and pertinent of which are Assembly resolutions S-13/2, 40/171, 42/186 and 44/225; Council resolutions 1989/7, 1989/8 and 1989/12; and Commission resolutions 602 (XXII).

30.92 The African mineral sector has experienced a number of adverse years during the 1980s. The sector, which depends heavily on export demands, has been seriously affected by the decline in international demand for mineral commodities produced in the region. At the same time, access to finance continues to be a major obstacle in view of the fact that mineral exploration is a high-risk activity and construction of major mines and processing facilities requires large sums of investment in mineral exploration and development of the sector.

30.93 As regards water resources, much more remains to be done to ensure its efficient development and use. The activities being implemented under the Lagos

Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa in 1980 have been severely affected by the economic crisis and the natural disasters during the 1980s. Progress with the use of irrigation for food and agriculture has been disappointing with food production still lagging behind the rate of population growth and with three-quarters of the rural population still having no access to safe drinking water or sanitation facilities.

30.94 While there is an increasing awareness of the potentials of cartography and remote sensing as tools for natural resources planning, development and management, detection of hazards and environmental monitoring, including combating drought and desertification, the overall capabilities of most countries in that field remain inadequate for their needs in natural resources development, planning and monitoring.

30.95 The objectives of the subprogramme are to assist countries of the region in:

(a) Improving their efficiency in metal and mineral production and machinery;

(b) Improving national capabilities for exploration and utilization of surface and ground-water resources;

(c) Promoting regional and subregional co-operation in the use of shared water rescurces.

30.96 In the field of cartography, the objectives of the subprogramme are to assist member States:

(a) To develop and strengthen institutional, technological and human resources capabilities for the application of cartography and remote sensing techniques in data collection and use for the exploitation of natural resources and environmental management;

(b) To enhance policies and design legislative guidelines for the use of cartography and remote sensing in social and economic development planning.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.97 Assistance will be provided to member States in building up their technical knowledge of mineral resources through the preparation of technical studies on all aspects of development and utilization of selected minerals, such as base commodities, ferrous and non-ferrous and fertilizer minerals, and in compiling information on mineral resources inventories. Training will be provided through workshops, seminars and study tours, on all aspects relating to mineral exploration and exploitation.

30.98 In the field of water resources, research and analysis will be undertaken on policy issues, technical assistance and advisory services will be provided and training courses, workshops, seminars and study tours will be organized and promoted in the fields of planning, management and institutional-capability development assessment of water resources and river and lake-basin development.

30.99 In the field of cartography, the secretariat will continue to offer technical advisory services to member States so as to make their national

institutions more responsive to their national cartographic and remote-sensing needs for planning and development. Those services will focus on: the formulation and execution of co-operative projects, such as the establishment of common geodetic standards and mapping specifications, building up of a geographic information database for Africa, through a continuous and systematic collection of maps and charts for the Map Documentation and Reference Centre, as an all-Africa map library; assistance in the development of the capacity to acquire a geographic information system for the rational exploitation and management of natural resources; and the establishment of a cartographic and remote-sensing information data bank.

SUBPROGRAMME 14. ENERGY

(a) Objectives

30.100 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 40/208, 42/186 and 43/193; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/10 and 1989/6; and Economic Commission for Africa resolution 572 (XXI).

30.101 The situation in Africa is characterized by:

(a) Low levels of total energy availability and use for production sectors of the economy, coupled with high levels of wastage, i.e., low efficiency in the production, conversion, transport, distribution and end-use of all forms of energy;

(b) Excessively high share of traditional biomass fuels in total energy consumption, coupled with very high levels of wastage in the use of all biomass fuels;

(c) Rapid depletion of standing biomass stocks in each of the major ecological zones and, consequently, rapidly growing scarcity, as well as growing deficiency, of traditional biomass fuels. That is increasing the burden women and children bear in gathering and using household fuels for family needs and the crisis over reduction of green areas of the Earth with repercussions of climate changes;

(d) High share of liquid petroleum fuels, used mainly in road and rail transport, in total commercial energy supplies, coupled with high levels of wastage in the end-use of such transport fuels;

(e) High burden resulting from the use of foreign exchange resources in the importation of petroleum and its derivatives imposed on the economies of most African countries;

(f) Escalation in the foreign exchange costs of technologies, both hardware as well as software, that are needed to expand rapidly the indigenous production of energy supplies and to improve energy end-use efficiency;

(g) Lack of adequate policy and planning research capacity indispensable for the formulation of coherent country-specific and resource-specific energy policies, plans and phased strategies essential for extracting each country from the complex energy crises it faces.

30.102 The objectives of the subprogramme are to assist member States in:

(a) Developing their national capabilities for exploration, exploitation, evaluation and development of energy resources and in promoting multinational co-operation activities;

(b) Integrating energy policies into general socio-economic growth and development policies.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.103 The ECA secretariat will provide assistance to the Commission's members and the African regional organizations in undertaking a systematic and comprehensive inventory of conventional and renewable sources of energy and analysing the conditions for their exploitation, distribution and use in order to establish the optimum conditions for their development. Assistance will also be provided in formulating integrated energy policies and in integrating them into overall socio-economic development and economic growth policies, in maximizing efficiency in the production, conversion, distribution and end-use of all forms of energy, and in the development of programmes for rapid replenishment of biomass fuels and for conservation measures for all sources of energy.

30.104 Efforts will continue in the collection, processing and dissemination of information and data on energy to assist member States in the formulation of their energy plans and assessment of the overall situation in the continent, in particular, by means of workshops and seminars. Furthermore, training of African researchers, engineers and technicians in the field of conventional and new and renewable sources of energy will continue through seminars, workshops and study tours. In the area of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, programmes will be formulated which will aim at developing the technical capabilities of African countries in the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and the development of nuclear science and technology.

SUBPROGRAMME 15. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(a) Objectives

30.105 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions, the most recent and pertinent of which are Assembly resolutions 43/184, 43/192, 44/14, 44/169 and 44/236; Council resolution 1987/79; and Commission resolution 629 (XXIII).

30.106 In spite of the often stated recognition of the role of science and technology in development, it is not fully reflected in national development plans. The majority of African countries still have no explicit policies for science and technology and the sporadic and often unharmonized initiatives in that area are inadequate to bring about concerted action in the subregions. The problems facing the region include the weak scientific infrastructure in many countries, the weak linkages between the productive sector and the scientific and technological institutions and the inadequacy of strategies to acquire technologies through technology transfer for the critical sectors. Furthermore, insufficient practical orientation of some scientific courses and research and their irrelevance to the needs of the local environment creates a situation in

which researchers cannot effectively respond to the technical challenges of their societies. Unsatisfactory work conditions and the marginalization of the contribution of indigenous technical personnel in their countries have also led to the brain drain and the subsequent worsening of the human resources situation.

30.107 The objectives of the subprogramme will be:

(a) To promote an understanding of the role of science and technology in economic and social development, as well as of the nature and levels of possible State intervention in that sector in order to ensure the attainment of development strategies;

(b) To provide assistance to ECA members and their intergovernmental organizations in the development, through appropriate education and training programmes, of the required science and technology personnel for technology assessment, transfer, development and application.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.108 In the course of implementation of the subprogramme, the ECA secretariat will focus on the following activities:

(a) Assistance to African countries in establishing or strengthening national, subregional and regional centres for technology, including an advance technology alert system, and in enhancing the system of developing qualified science and technology human resources, including women;

(b) Studies on principles of technological policy-making and planning for development, technological assessment in the process of acquisition and transfer of technology;

(c) Technical assistance to African countries and relevant regional and subregional institutions, such as the African Regional Centre for Technology, the African Regional Organization for Standardization, and others, in development and implementation of the projects of their specific concern;

(d) Dissemination of information on science and technology in specific fields of science to African countries, in particular through seminars, workshops, study tours and other relevant mechanisms.

SUBPROGRAMME 16. POPULATION

(a) Objectives

30.109 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly, Economic and Social Council and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions, the most recent and pertinent of which are Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 44/169; Council resolutions 1989/89, 1989/90, 1989/91, 1989/92 and 1989/93; and Commission resolution 506 (XIX).

30.110 There have been marked changes recently among many member States in their perception of population issues as central to socio-economic development planning, and attempts are being made at formulating population policies within the framework of their development plans. Unfortunately, data constraints, lack of adequately

developed methodologies, a shortage of adequately trained personnel to deal with population and development issues, as well as weak or non-existent mechanisms to facilitate the flow of population and related information needed for socio-economic planning, prevented successful implementation of population policies.

30.111 Moreover, methodological problems related to data collection, analysis and use of findings in policy formulation remain major constraints to the integration of population variables into development planning. Owing to those problems, a number of African countries have experienced difficulties in analyses of censuses undertaken during the 1980s and in preparation of censuses to be undertaken during the 1990s. Much more has to be done for training of personnel in the field of population, in particular through better utilization of existing training facilities in the region.

30.112 The objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To facilitate the integration of population factors into socio-economic development planning in the region;

(b) To assist ECA members in formulating and implementing relevant population programmes and policies, in evaluating family planning programmes, in establishing or strengthening national population information systems, and in analysing and utilizing demographic data, as well as in training of related personnel.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.113 Assistance in the formulation and implementation of relevant population programmes and policies will be provided through regional advisory services, upon request. Assistance will also be provided in setting up population units in planning offices, establishing population commissions, and organizing study tours in countries with successful population programmes and policies.

30.114 The Secretariat will undertake studies, research and analyses of specific issues in the field of population data, such as fertility, mortality, with emphasis on infant and child mortality, urbanization, population distribution and redistribution and migration, family planning and birth-spacing programmes, the integration of population variables in development planning, population policies, the role and status of women, population and environment, and their relation to socio-economic development. The related findings will be disseminated to the ECA members by organizing seminars, conferences and workshops.

SUBPROGRAMME 17. TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM

(a) Objectives

30.115 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions 40/172 and 43/179; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1988/67 and 1989/115; and Economic Commission for Africa resolutions 563 (XXI), 567 (XXI), 604 (XXII), 610 (XXII), 639 (XXIII), 640 (XXIII) and 656 (XXIV).

30.116 Most of the African countries are facing fundamental problems of how to manage efficiently and sustain the existing transport and communications infrastructures and expand them beyond the urban centres to the rural communities. In spite of the attempts made during the 1984-1989 period to develop the multimodal

aspects of transport, mostly containerization, no significant success was achieved. Efforts were also not effective with regard to institution building in general, largely owing to the lack of support by member States to sustain intergovernmental organizations already established. Unsatisfactory results were also apparent in the field of manpower development, owing mainly to the absence or inadequacy of proper human resource management systems.

30.117 The lack of integrated planning has also led to insufficient investments in transport and communications, the ineffective use of available equipment and the under-utilization of existing networks.

30.118 As regards the tourism industry in Africa, it is confronted with operational and management problems, aggravated by inadequate tourism infrastructures and services in some countries and by a lack of sufficient qualified personnel and training institutions. Furthermore, a lack of adequate facilities at almost all levels of management training and outdated training programmes prevented effective integration of training and the exchange of qualified staff in that industry.

30.119 The objectives of the subprogramme in the field of transport and communications are to assist member States in developing effective and efficient transport and communications networks that would enhance the physical integration of the African continent. In that regard, the efforts of ECA will be concentrated on bringing about practical co-operation on a multinational basis in the field of transport and communications, particularly in inter-country traffic facilitation, infrastructural development and maintenance in order to operate, manage and sustain efficiently the existing infrastructures. That would include incorporating new technologies, creating proper human resource management systems and manpower development, promoting restructuring of organizations and policies development, creating mail-routing transit centres and modernization of the postal system, and promoting basic research of trends in development of industries for transport and communications in Africa in the light of the objectives of the Second Transport and Communication Decade in Africa.

30.120 With regard to the tourism industry, the objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To promote the rational exploitation of tourism resources and potential, co-operation and harmonious integration of policies and programmes related to tourism development;

(b) To strengthen regional co-operation in tourism, through the establishment of inter-State circuits, joint promotion of tourism and a multinational vocational training system.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.121 During the period 1992-1997, the ECA secretariat will follow-up on the studies and activities initiated during the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989, extended to 1991, namely, facilitation of international traffic, manpower development and promotion of an African industry in transport and communications. It will promote the involvement of African countries in concrete projects, activities and operational mechanisms related to facilitation of traffic, maintenance and development of transport and communications infrastructures with special emphasis on inter-State links and transit corridors, installation of human

resource management systems in all transport and communications institutions, and development of joint operations of transport and communications services, where practicable, in order to promote regional co-operation in that field. The ECA secretariat will undertake studies and research of specific issues in the field of transport and communications and their trends at the regional, subregional and national levels and disseminate the related findings within the region. The activities concerning institution infrastructure will be reoriented from the establishment of new institutions to the strengthening and the rationalization of the existing ones.

30.122 As regards tourism, the secretariat will continue to assist member States through advisory services, organization of workshops and seminars, continuous survey and assessment of tourism potential, identification of training needs, and collection and dissemination of tourism information. The secretariat will also continue to promote regional and subregional programmes for the harmonization and standardization of hotel management methods, programmes for training in planning and analysis, the establishment of efficient vocational training systems, as well as machineries for consultation among tourism professionals in Africa and assistance to member States in the establishment of inter-State circuits and machineries for their effective use.

SUBPROGRAMME 18. STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT

(a) Objectives

30.123 The legislative authority for the subprogramme derives from General Assembly resolutions S-13/2 and 44/169 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/3.

30.124 Statistical development in Africa is still unsatisfactory despite some improvement in statistical organization and production over the last two decades. Few countries have well co-ordinated plans for statistical development and even fewer for national development plans that incorporate statistical development. There is a persistent lack of trained and experienced statisticians in many African countries. A number of statistical personnel have been trained, but the statistical brain drain, especially at the management level, has continued. In spite of the advent of more efficient hardware and software, the time lag between the collection of data and the publication of results is still too long. That is the result of a lack of statisticians with modern data processing skills and of qualified data processing specialists, as well as an insufficient level of co-ordination between such specialists and computer personnel, particularly where large quantities of data need to be processed. Wider and more efficient micro-computer applications are needed for improving the timeliness and analytical quality of statistics.

30.125 The scope, quality and analysis of statistics in Africa hardly meet the elementary requirements of planning and decision-making. Those deficiencies may translate into enormous costs if factors behind socio-economic and environmental crises remain unknown and thus unattended. Despite an improvement in demographic data collection, Africa still lags behind in the availability of detailed and timely data regarding fertility, mortality and migration, especially with respect to the determinants and effects of trends in those fields, while data pertaining to environmental problems are almost non-existent. Many African countries do not as yet have basic statistics on agriculture, trade, industry, energy, transport,

communications or price statistics. National accounts have been compiled and processed for different periods of time for nearly all countries of the region, but the basic data for compiling the accounts are limited, inadequate, and, in most cases, very general, fixed parameter models have been used to evaluate quite different activities.

30.126 The objectives of the subprogramme are:

(a) To assist African countries in establishing and/or developing a durable infrastructure for the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of integrated demographic, social and economic statistics;

(b) To integrate environment statistics into routine data collection activities and to collect data on special population groups, such as women, children, the disabled and the aged;

(c) To assist African countries to build up statistical data required for drawing up meaningful economic and social development plans;

(d) To develop the necessary statistical data in planning, monitoring and evaluating social and economic progress;

(e) To provide continuous support for developing national data processing capabilities, especially by enhancing the utilization of micro-computers;

(f) To expand the availability of and improve the ease of access to national, subregional and regional data bases;

(g) To promote the improvement of the quality, relevance, timeliness and inter-country comparability of the data being collected.

(b) Course of action of the Secretariat

30.127 During 1992-1997, in order to improve the situation in the field of statistics in the region, the ECA secretariat will undertake the following activities and will provide:

(a) Assistance to member States for the maintenance and strengthening of their institutional framework and for the provision of data for integrated planning. Areas covered will include demographic, social and economic data, particularly on households and household members, as well as environment statistics;

(b) Advisory services to countries on the formulation of statistical plans, including data production schedules, training programmes and detailed data-processing requirements, on the establishment of user/producer committees for optimizing the use and relevance of statistical services, and on the development and maintenance of integrated computer-based systems of economic, social, demographic and environment statistics;

(c) Advisory services in the fields of population censuses, civil registration, household surveys, environment statistics, national accounts, trade statistics and industrial statistics, which will concentrate on building up self-reliance and will therefore emphasize on-the-job training;

(d) Expansion of the existing regional statistical data base, with a view to disseminating to users comprehensive and up-to-date statistical information, including well-documented data from other international data banks and from national sources;

(e) Statistical computing materials for on-the-job training and formal training of statisticians at statistical training centres;

(f) Methodological studies that will be carried out in specific areas of economic, social, demographic and environment statistics. Those studies will have two main objectives, namely: to identify and analyse the shortcomings of the basic statistics at the national level, and to serve as technical guidelines for member States to assist them in their efforts to improve the quality and timeliness of data being collected;

(g) A series of seminars and training workshops to examine conceptual and organizational requirements for improving national, subregional and regional programmes on socio-economic and environment statistics, to promote the exchange of experiences between the countries of the region in the field of statistics, and to develop further the professional competence of the participants. Those workshops and seminars will focus on: statistical computing, population census, with particular reference to special population groups, civil registration systems and vital statistics collection, household surveys, environment statistics, international trade statistics, business surveys, basic economic statistics and national accounts. A series of technical documents will be prepared on the above topics and disseminated among member States.